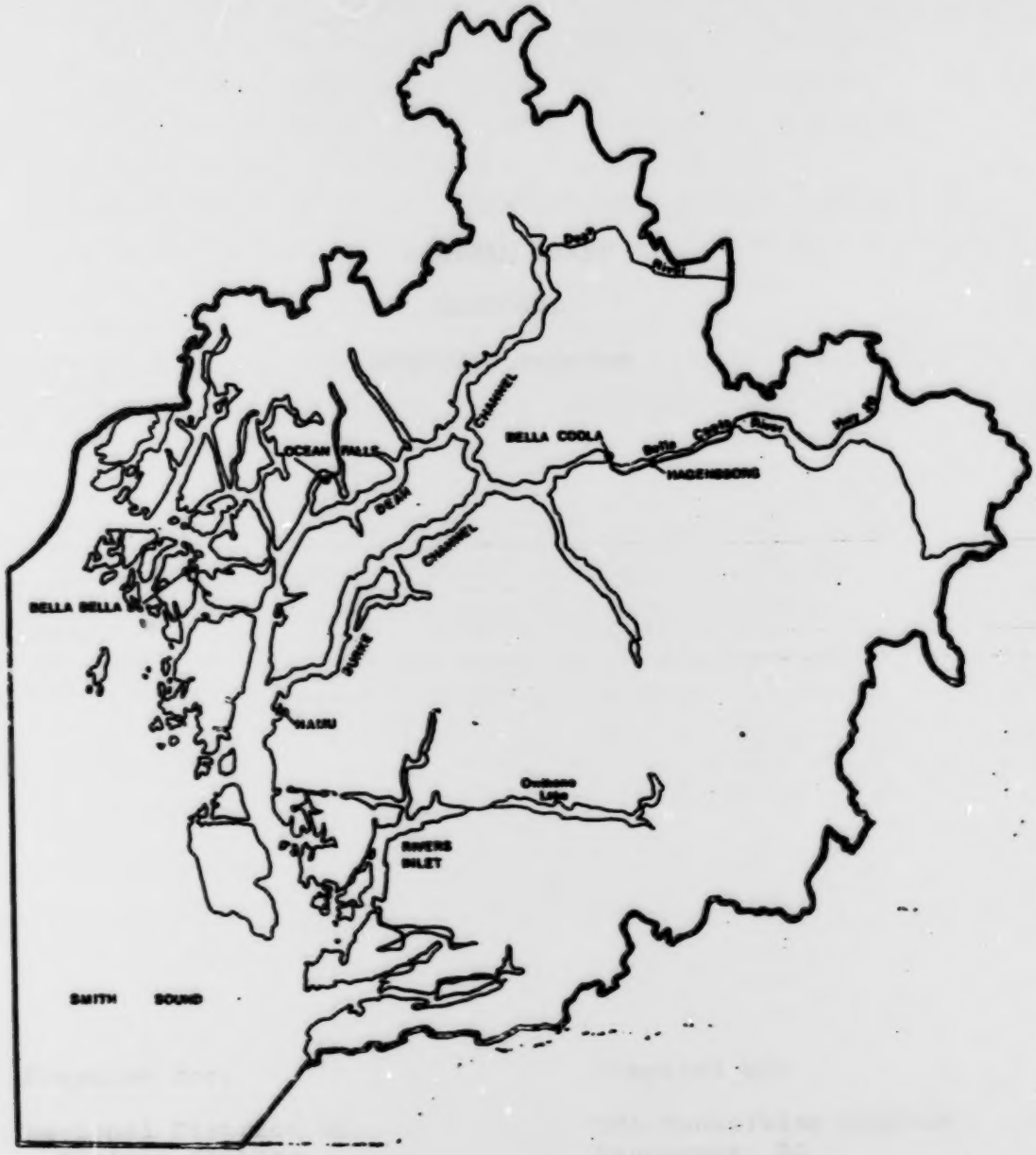
CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL ECONOMIC PROFILE



Prepared for:

Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine
Economic Development
Commission

Prepared by:

DPA Consulting Limited
Vancouver, BC

December 1982

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The responsibility for the content of this report is the consultant's alone, and the conclusions reached herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of those who assisted during the course of this investigation or the federal and provincial governments which funded the study.

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FORWARD

This Regional Economic Profile and the supplemental Community Profiles were prepared by DPA Consulting Limited at the request of the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine for use in matters pertaining to the Regional District of the Central Coast.

The Regional Economic Profile provides a summary of the region's natural resources, demography, history, economy, settlement pattern, infrastructure, and development potential. Community Profiles have been prepared for the settlements of Bella Coola, Bella Bella, and Ocean Falls. These profiles provide supplemental detail at the community level. Each profile was designed to be used independently of the Regional Profile and consequently provides an overview of local history, demography, economy, scope of local business, infrastructure, and development prospects.

The intent of the Regional Economic Profile and the Community Profiles is to provide a catalogue of resources available to those interested in economic development within the region. This engagement and its outputs were not intended to be an economic opportunity study.

The data used in this report were obtained from published and unpublished sources in both government and industry. An extensive interview process with community and business leaders provided the basis for the community profiles. These interviews served to update available data and to provide qualitative assessments and interpretations of present and future regional conditions.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and Size

The Regional District of the Central Coast is one of 29 regional administration units formed by the Province of BC to provide local coordination of planning and services for areas transcending municipal boundaries. This west coast region lies south of the Queen Charlotte Islands and north of Vancouver Island. The Central Coast shares a northern boundary with the Regional Districts of Kitimat-Stikine and Bulkley-Nechako. The Cariboo and Mount Waddington Regional Districts form the eastern and southern boundaries respectively. (See Map 1.)

The Central Coast is a relatively small Regional District. It occupies an area of 25,181 sq km (9,722 sq mi) and represents 2.7% of the Province's total area. It is sparsely populated and relatively isolated. The Central Coast houses the communities of Bella Coola, Bella Bella and Ocean Falls, but it has no incorporated settlements. There are approximately 480 km (300 miles) of road separating Bella Coola from Williams Lake which is the nearest major population centre.

1.2 History

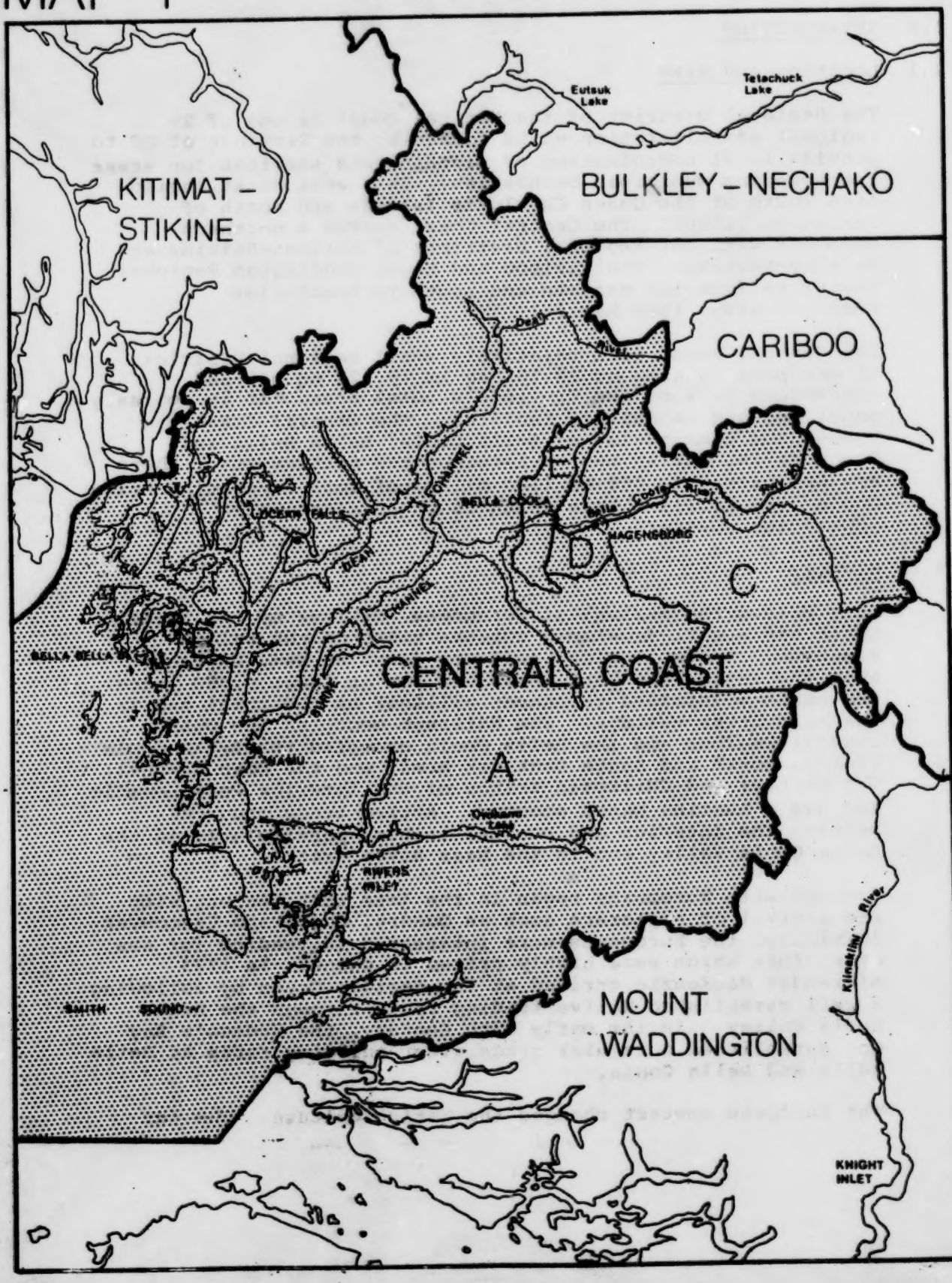
Long before the arrival of Europeans, Natives of the Pacific Coast had a well-developed culture based on the salmon resource. Archaeological evidence found at Namu suggests that the region has been inhabited for at least 9,000 years. The bands maintained permanent villages on the coast and in the main river valleys. The Heiltsuk occupied the outer coastal regions and the Bella Coola occupied the Bella Coola Valley, North and South Bentinck Arms, and the Dean Channel. The Carrier and Chilcotin tribes of the interior were nomadic and had a hunting based economy. Active trade occurred between the interior and coastal tribes, particularly in the Bella Coola Valley and in the Nass River area.

Contact with Europeans began in the late 18th Century with the arrival of explorers such as Quadra, Cook, and Vancouver. Initially, the Europeans were interested in trading for sea otter furs which were highly prized in China. In 1773 Alexander MacKenzie arrived at the Pacific Ocean by following a well established Native trading route through the Bella Coola Valley. In the early 19th Century, the Hudson's Bay Co. established a regular trade after building forts at Bella Bella and Bella Coola.

The European contact changed the Native culture. The fur

MAP 1

ELECTORAL AREAS



traders introduced guns, alcohol, and Christianity. The Natives tended to concentrate their activities around the established forts and regular contact made them vulnerable to outbreaks of unfamiliar diseases. The small-pox epidemic of 1862 decimated the Native population.

Non-Native settlement of the area occurred later than it did on the southern BC coast. With the exception of trading posts, permanent settlement did not occur until 1894 when a small group of American based Norwegians homesteaded in the Bella Coola Valley. Although their primary pursuit was farming, they soon established a small sawmill to service local needs and also became interested in the salmon fishery.

At the turn of the century, the Central Coast entered a period of industrial development which formed the basis for today's economy. The initial development spanned 20 years and involved both the fishing and forest industries.

In the 1890's, there were two canneries operating in Rivers Inlet and one cannery at Namu. In 1900 the growing community of Bella Coola built a cannery to service the local fishing fleet. This facility was sold to British Columbia Packers Association (which later became BC Packers Ltd.) in 1902. At this time, Rivers Inlet had become the focus for commercial fishing activity. It housed six canning operations and was a major source of employment for the local Native community. The salmon canning business reached a peak of activity in 1917 with the construction of a second facility at Bella Coola. In addition, the coastal industry boasted 9 canneries in Rivers Inlet, and one each at Namu and Bella Bella.

Logging and sawmill operations existed in the Bella Coola Valley and in Rivers Inlet, but these were scaled to meet the requirements of the small local market. This region was considered too far removed from the mills and markets of Vancouver to warrant a large-scale investment. The development of the forest industry in the Central Coast began with the formation of the Bella Coola Pulp and Paper Company in 1902. The company chose Ocean Falls as the site for a pulp mill which would service their 32,376 ha (80,000 acres) of pulp timber leases. The site was close to their log supply and a proposed dam on Link Lake would satisfy their power and fresh water requirements. By 1912 a groundwood newsprint mill and a well laid out company town were operating. Within three years, however, financial problems had forced a takeover by Pacific Mills Ltd. (which later became Crown Zellerbach of Canada Ltd.). Under the new management, the mill became a major producer of newsprint.

From 1920 to 1970 the economy of the region slowly shifted

towards a forest industry base. The early 1920's saw a period of depression in world salmon markets. Northern BC Fish Ltd., which operated canneries at Namu and Bella Coola, collapsed in 1923. Poor economic times encouraged consolidation of facilities. By 1926, the Canadian Fishing Company Ltd. became one of two major coast firms by acquiring 12 existing canneries. As technological improvements were made in refrigeration methods and boat speed increased, it became economically advantageous for companies to consolidate their canning facilities in Vancouver or Prince Rupert. Most of the original canneries ceased operation in the late 1940's and 1950's. The BC Packers' cannery at Namu was the last of the old facilities, and it closed in the late 1960's.

While the salmon canning industry was slowly leaving the Central Coast, the pulp complex at Ocean Falls was continuing to prosper and expand. By 1946, the plant had three mills and six paper machines, and employed 1,370 people. During the 1960's, the Ocean Falls complex served as a primary training base for employees required in BC's expanding interior pulp and paper industry. In the late 1960's, however, rising transportation and labour costs, increased competition, and technological developments were combining to make the operation unprofitable.

During the period from 1955 to 1970, the BC sawmill industry experienced a dramatic shift to fewer but larger mills. The Central Coast has had a few large logging operations, but most of the logging and sawmilling activity involved many one and two-man operations. The shift to larger mills which paid higher wages meant the loss of most of the region's local operations.

The initial success in canning and forestry provided only limited stimulus for general area development. The region was isolated from the rest of BC and its communities developed in isolated pockets. A land route to the Central Coast was not completed until 1953 and the major development at Ocean Falls never had the benefit of land access.

During the 1970's, the Ocean Falls operation continued to have profitability problems. A scaled down operation continued until the BC government purchased the mill and townsite in 1973. The Ocean Falls Corporation was subsequently placed under the administrative direction of BC Cellulose Company. Efforts to preserve jobs and maintain the local industry finally ended in 1980 when problems involving power, wood supply, and efficiency permanently closed the mill. This left a slowly developing Bella Coola Valley as the centre of economic activity for the Central Coast.

With respect to developments in the fish processing industry in the 1970's, a group of Central Coast fishermen formed a cooperative and purchased the Milbanke cannery at Bella Bella in 1975. The Central Native Fishermen's Co-operative subsequently expanded the canning facilities and added a cold storage facility in late 1979.

1.3 Topography

The Central Coast Regional District has a 16-40 km (10-25 mi) wide lowland area which includes the islands and the ends of the mainland peninsulas. These low lands were heavily glaciated at one time and extensive areas of base bedrock show the effects of ice erosion. In areas where drainage is not well established, there are large expanses of muskeg. In general the tree cover is sparse and composed mostly of decadent cedar, hemlock and cypress. The rugged relief, thin soil, muskeg areas, and a lack of gravel make road construction difficult in the coastal lowlands.

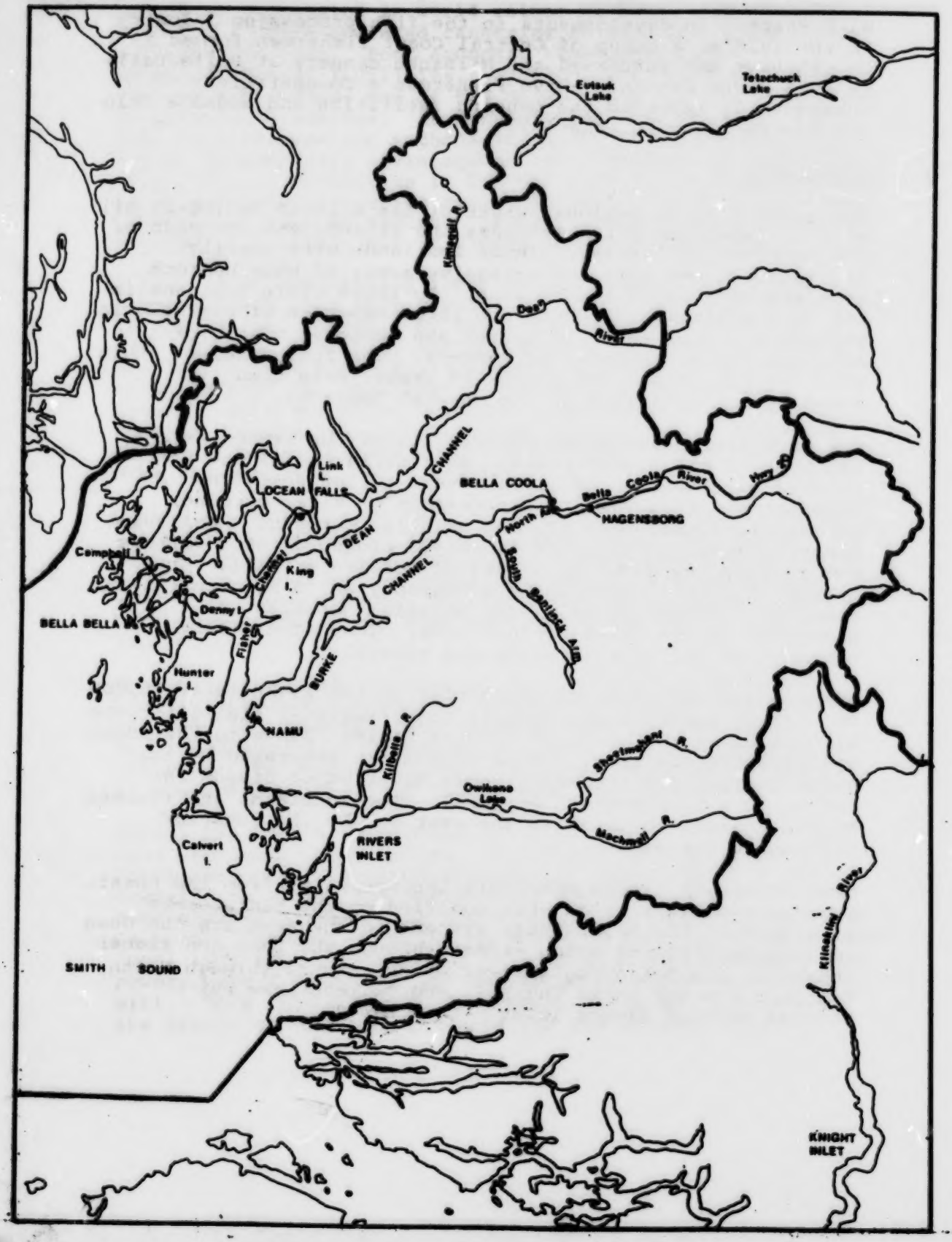
The Cordilleran Ice Sheet covered all of the region except for some of the higher peaks. Near Bella Coola, the ice reached an elevation of 1,980 meters (6,500 ft). The depositional features are represented by till, moraine, colluvial, glacio-fluvial, and alluvial deposits. Colluvial deposits cover portions of the lower slopes of most valleys and in many areas lie on a base of moraine or till. These "slide" deposits represent a topography which is potentially unstable. Glacial-fluvial and alluvial deposits are prominent in the Bella Coola Valley. They form stable terraces of well sorted sands and gravel.

Steep mountains, some of which rise to the 2,400 meter (8,000 ft) level, dominate the Central Coast Regional District. The Kitimat Range to the north and the Pacific Range to the south traverse the district. These ranges are separated by the Burke Channel and the Bella Coola River which bisect the region on a northeastern diagonal. The mountains are flanked by the coastal lowlands in the west and by the interior plateau in the east.

Deep irregular fiords penetrate the mountains from the coast. These are valleys which were modified by the Pleistocene glaciation. The major water systems in the area are the Dean and Kimsquit Rivers which extend through the Dean and Fisher Channels, the Bella Coola River which extends through North Bentinck Arm and Burke Channel, and Owikeno Lake which extends through Rivers Inlet. (See Map 2.)

MAP 2

RIVERS AND WATER BODIES



1.4 Climate

The Central Coast has two different climatic areas. The coastal zone is composed of the islands and outer mainland areas. It includes the communities of Bella Bella, Namu, Rivers Inlet, and Ocean Falls. This zone is characterized by a mild marine climate. The average yearly temperature is 8 °C with a range of 15 °C between January and July. On the coast near sea level, the frost-free period is up to 230 days. The Bella Coola Valley falls in the coastal mountains zone. While few generalities can be made about this zone because conditions depend on local topography, the climate tends to be more extreme and the frost-free period is much lower.

The Central Coast receives a large amount of rain. Storms sweeping in from the Pacific are moisture-laden and forced to rise by the mountain front. This causes rain on the lower levels and snow on the mountain peaks. The many deep fiords complicate the precipitation pattern by causing clouds to converge. This results in local areas with extremely high levels of precipitation. One such location is found at Ocean Falls. Maximum rainfall occurs in fall and winter, with the largest amount falling in November. The extreme outer coast has recorded maximum 24 hour rainfalls of 13 cm (5 in). However, in the fiords and inlets 24 hour rainfall can be in excess of 20 cm (8 in).

2.0 Population

2.1 Size

The Central Coast Regional District had a population of 3,047 in 1981, which represented 0.11% of the 1981 BC population. In the past 20 years, the Central Coast population size has decreased by 50%, while BC has increased its population by 68% (see Table 1). The most significant decline has occurred as a result of the closing of the Ocean Falls paper mill and the eventual mothballing of the town.

2.2 Distribution

In 1976, the Central Coast was characterized by three population centres which accounted for approximately 85% of the Regional District residents. The closing of Ocean Falls has reduced the population centres to the Bella Bella Indian Reserve and the Bella Coola Valley (centred around Bella Coola-Hagensborg) which still account for in excess of 80% of the population. The balance is widely dispersed throughout the Regional District.

TABLE 1: POPULATION HISTORY FOR THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF THE CENTRAL COAST

	Population		
Year	Regional District	BC	% of BC Population
1961	6,260	1,629,082	0.38
1966	6,161	1,873,674	0.33
1971	4,215	2,184,621	0.19
1976	4,184	2,466,608	0.17
1981	3,047	2,744,467	0.11

The Regional District is divided into five Electoral Areas which are shown in Map 1. The populations and population densities of these Electoral Areas are shown in Table 2. With the exception of Electoral Area A, which encompasses Ocean Falls, the 1976 figures provide a reasonable estimate of the 1981 figures (which were not available at the time this report was prepared). Area D is significant because it includes Hagensborg, Lower Bella Coola, and the Bella Coola Indian Reserve. Area B is significant because it represents the largest Native reserve in the region (Bella Bella).

The population of most communities and Indian Reserves within the Regional District are listed in Table 3 and their location is shown on Map 3.

TABLE 2: POPULATION AND POPULATION DENSITY

Electoral Areas	1976 Population	Areas (ha)	Density People/100 ha
A	1,494	2,043,150	.07
B	862	700	123.1
C	484	415,380	0.12
D	1,082	22,510	4.8
E	262	36,340	0.7
Total Central Coast	4,184		

2.3 Growth

The Central Coast is small, isolated, and does not appear to to be growth oriented. As mentioned above, the Central Coast population has actually shrunk significantly over the last 20 years. The little population growth which has occurred involves the Bella Coola Valley and the Hagensborg area specifically. The Official Settlement Plan for the Bella Coola Valley, as prepared by Urban Programme Planners in 1979, states that the Valley population increased by 20% between 1961 and 1976, with the Hagensborg and east population experiencing the major change (193 new residents between 1966 and 1976).

MAP 3 COMMUNITIES, INDIAN RESERVES, & PARKS

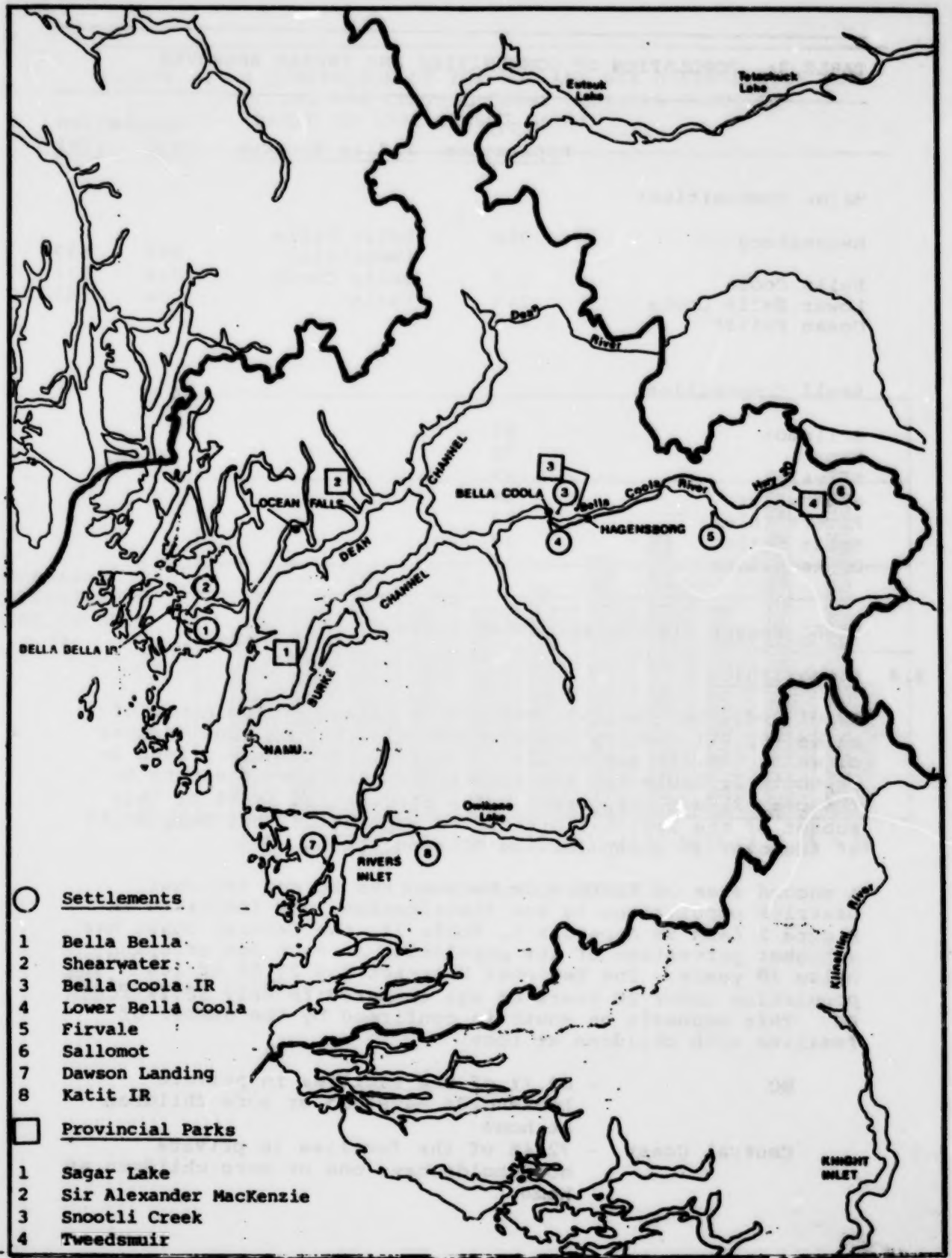


TABLE 3: POPULATION OF COMMUNITIES AND INDIAN RESERVES

	1976 Population	Indian Reserve	Population 1976	Population 1981
Major Communities:				
Hagensborg	354	Bella Bella (Waglisla)	862	659
Bella Coola	257	Bella Coola	544	571
Lower Bella Coola	244	Katit	54	43
Ocean Falls*	1,274			
Small Communities				
Sallomot	81			
Namu	71			
Firvale	49			
Shearwater	24			
Rivers Inlet	23			
Bella Bella	18			
Owikeno Lake	12			

*1981 census figures for Ocean Falls is 91.

2.4 Demographics

As of 1981, the Central Coast had a slight predominance of males (52.2%) whereas the BC population had an equal number of males (49.7%) and females. As shown in Figure 1 (and in Appendix I, Table 1), the significant difference occurs in the over 35 age category. Males represented 55.9% of this subset of the Regional District's population, but only 48.6% of the over 35 group for the BC population.

A second area of difference between the BC and Regional District populations is age distribution. As indicated in Figure 2 (and in Appendix I, Table 2), the Central Coast has a higher percentage of its population in each age grouping below 20 years. The Regional District has 39.0% of its population under 20 years of age compared to only 30.2% for BC. This emphasis on youth is confirmed by the number of families with children at home.

BC - 62.7% of the families in private households have one or more children at home

Central Coast - 72.4% of the families in private households have one or more children at home.

FIGURE 1: A COMPARISON OF THE AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION FOR BC AND THE CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT (BASED ON 1981 CENSUS DATA)

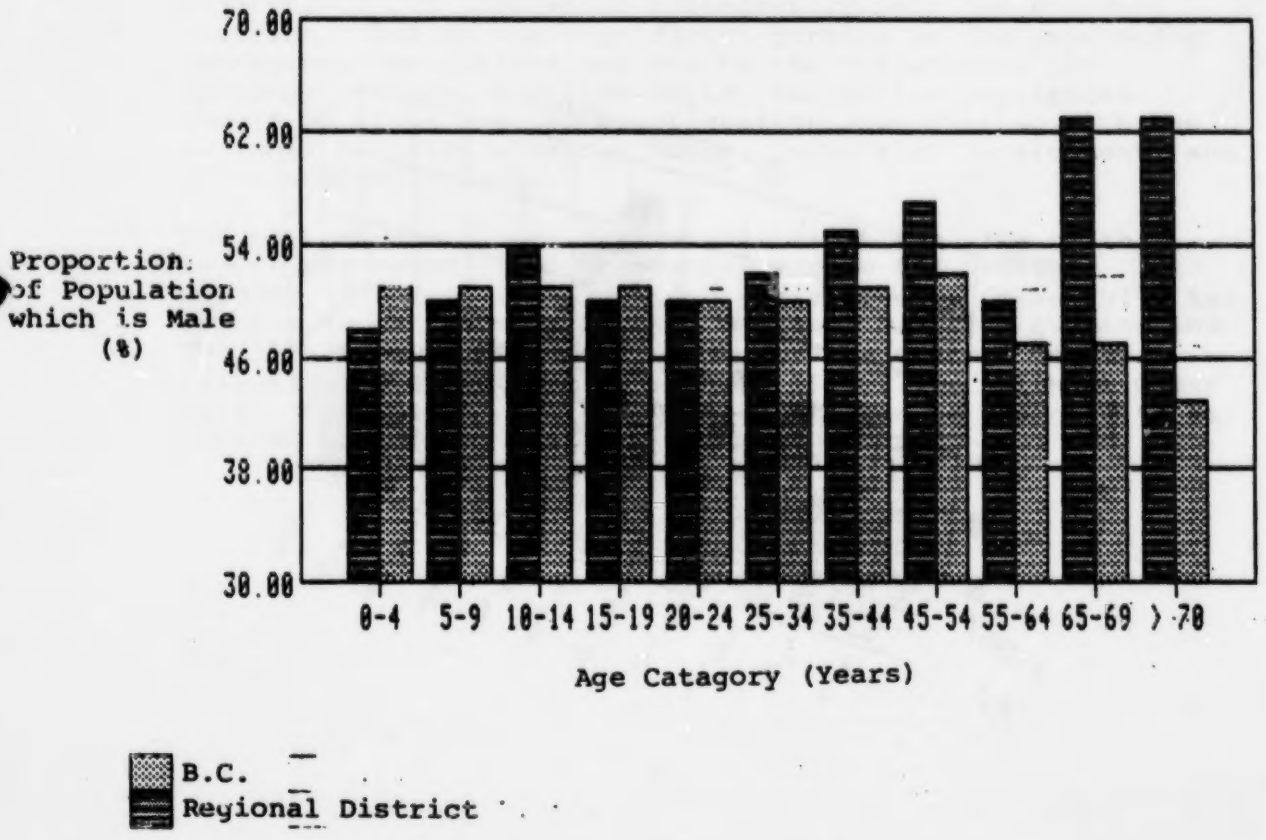
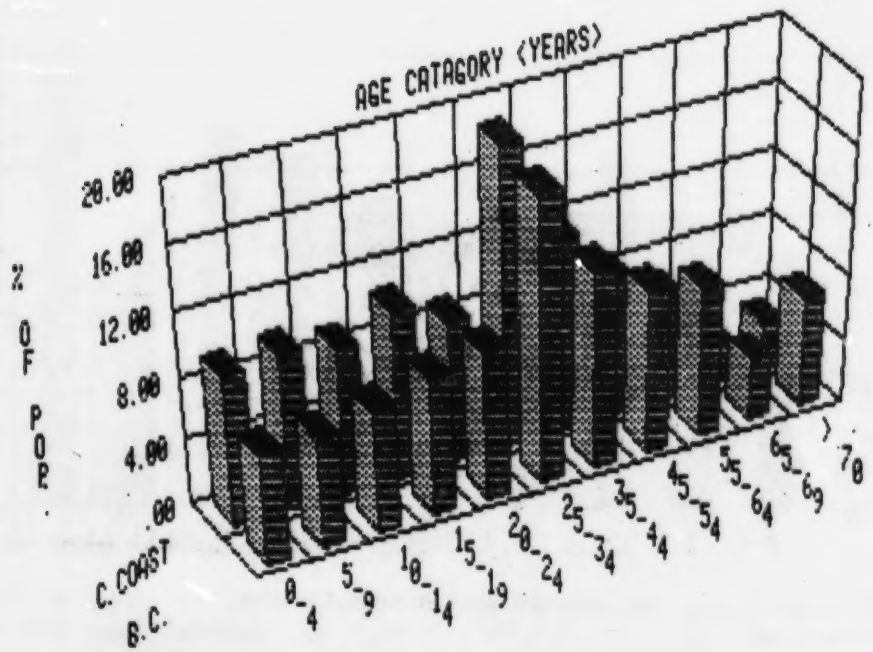


FIGURE 2: A COMPARISON OF THE AGE DISTRIBUTION FOR BC AND THE CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT (BASED ON 1981 CENSUS DATA)



Ethnic background represents the largest area of difference between the populations of BC and the Central Coast. Figures 3 and 4 (and Appendix I, Table 3) present the 1971 ethnic compositon for BC and the Central Coast respectively. The high proportion of Central Coast residents with a Native background (33%) in 1971 is likely higher in 1981. Despite a 13% decline in Indian Reserve populations between 1976 and 1981, they represented 41.8% of the Central Coast's total population in 1981.

	1971	1976	1981
Central Coast Population	4,215	4,184	3,047
Indian Reserve Population	1,280	1,460	1,273
%	30.4%	34.9%	41.8%

This shift is due to the closing of Ocean Falls. The majority of its population subsequently left the Regional District. Due to the significant portion of the population represented by Natives and due to the differences in ideology, values, and life-style, the Native population should be given special consideration when dealing with the Regional District's labour force, industrial development, and other economic issues.

The most recent income data available at the time of this report are based on 1979 personal income tax returns. However, the data available did not allow the Ocean Falls tax returns to be removed from the Regional District examination. The 1979 average level of income for the Central Coast ($12,621) is 95% of the BC average ($13,277). Without Ocean Falls' contribution, the average level can be expected to be reduced in 1980 and 1981.

FIGURE 3 : ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF B.C.
(BASED ON 1971 CENSUS DATA)

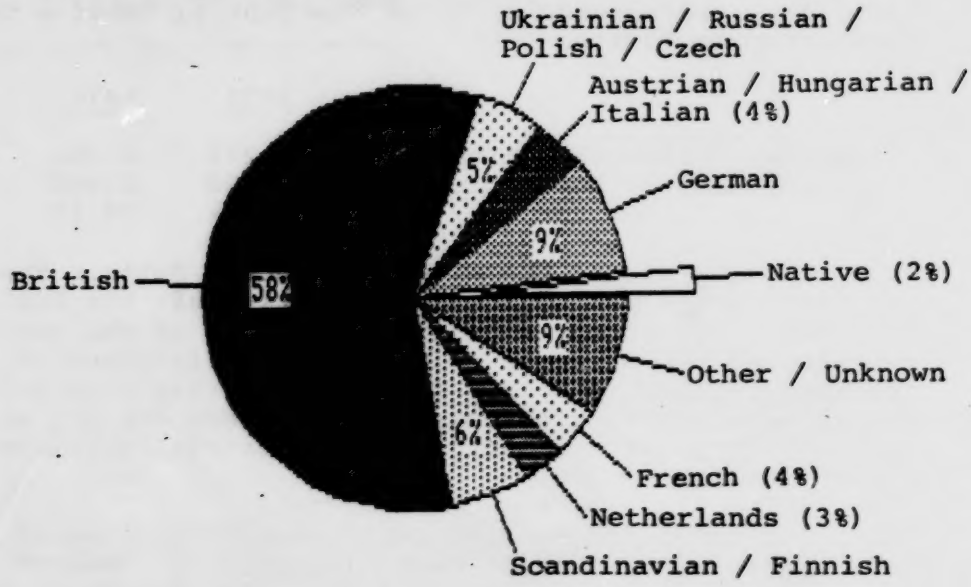
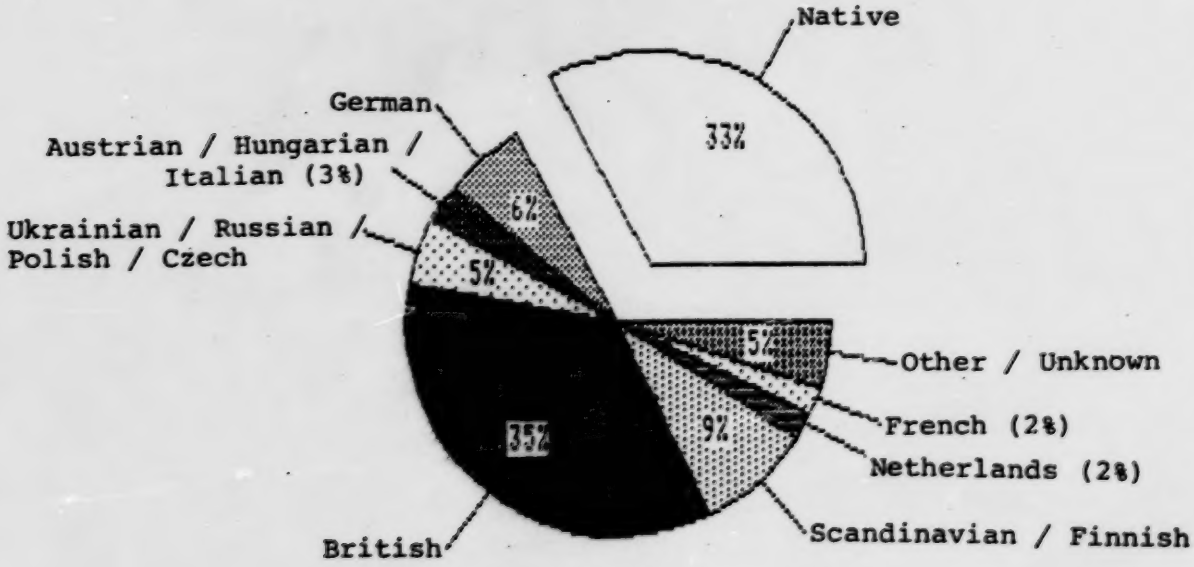


FIGURE 4 : ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE CENTRAL COAST
(BASED ON 1971 CENSUS DATA)



3.0 LABOUR FORCE

3.1 Size

The 1981 labour force figures were not available from Statistics Canada at the time that this report was prepared. The 1976 data have been used to provide a reasonable estimate.

In 1976, the labour force for the Regional District of the Central Coast represented 44.8% of the population. This compares well with the 45.4% experienced by BC. Based on a 1981 Regional District population of 3,047, it is estimated that the size of the labour force available was 1,300 or 42.7%. This is a significant drop and represents the loss of Ocean Falls. The lower participation rate reflects the generally lower participation rate common to the Indian Reserves which now make up a larger share of the population. Table 4 in Appendix I outlines the estimation method used.

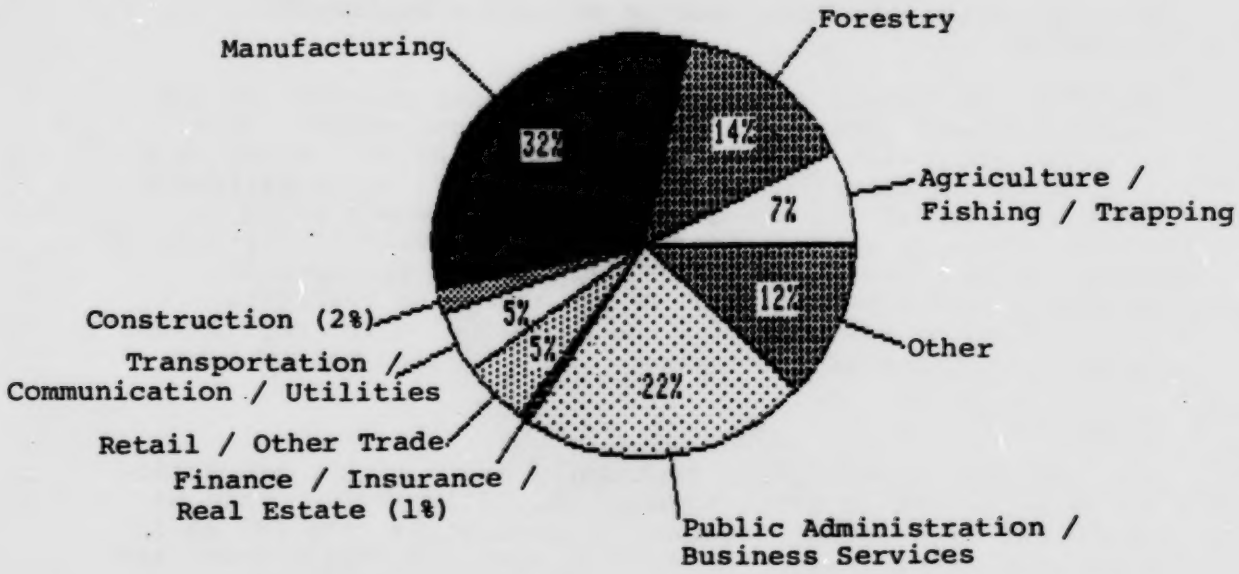
3.2 Composition

The Regional District's labour force has a higher proportion of males (67.5% in 1976) than BC (62.0% in 1976). This is reflected in a higher regional participation rate (83.8% in 1976) for males (e.g., those males over 15 years old who are in the labour force) than it was for BC (74.7% in 1976). These proportions did not vary significantly across the region's population centres in 1976 and are expected to be good estimators for 1981.

The contribution of several industries is displayed in Figure 5 (and Appendix I, Table 5) which shows the labour force distribution in 1971. The closure of Ocean Falls is expected to reduce the share held by manufacturing to less than 10% of the labour force. (Forestry's share may also be reduced to a small extent.) The development of industry has been slow in the Central Coast and after the adjustment to manufacturing, the 1971 proportions are expected to be reasonable estimators for 1981. (Due to the small size of the labour force, however, the proportions could be altered significantly by the creation of a new business employing as few as 100 people.)

Other characteristics of the labour force which distinguish it from that of BC are age distribution and education level. Figures 6 and 7 (and Appendix I; Table 6) display the age distribution of the labour force for BC and for the Regional District. The proportion of the labour force in the 25 to 44 age group is significantly larger for the Central Coast (49.4%) than for BC (44.7%). This difference would also not

FIGURE 5 : LABOUR FORCE BY INDUSTRIAL SECTOR
(BASED ON 1971 CENSUS DATA)



be expected to exist based on differences in the age distributions of the two populations. (There is no significant difference between the two populations in the 25 to 44 age category [27.4% for BC and 28.7% for the Central Coast in 1976].) Figures 8 and 9 (and Appendix I, Table 7) display the educational breakdown of the labour force for BC and for the Regional District. There is a significantly larger proportion of the Central Coast labour force which has less than a grade 9 level education. (The figures are 17% for the Regional District compared to 11.7% for BC.)

3.3 Unemployment

In 1976, unemployment in the Regional District (6.1%) was significantly lower than for BC (8.7%). This is largely due to the effect of the low rate experienced in Ocean Falls. In the non-Native reserve areas (Ocean Falls represented the bulk of this population), the unemployment rate was 3.9%. In the Indian Reserves, the 8.5% rate compares well with the provincial average. The 1981 figures are more likely to be in line with the province or slightly higher due to the inclusion of those who stayed behind at Ocean Falls.

FIGURE 6 : AGE DISTRIBUTION OF B.C. LABOUR FORCE
(BASED ON 1976 CENSUS DATA)

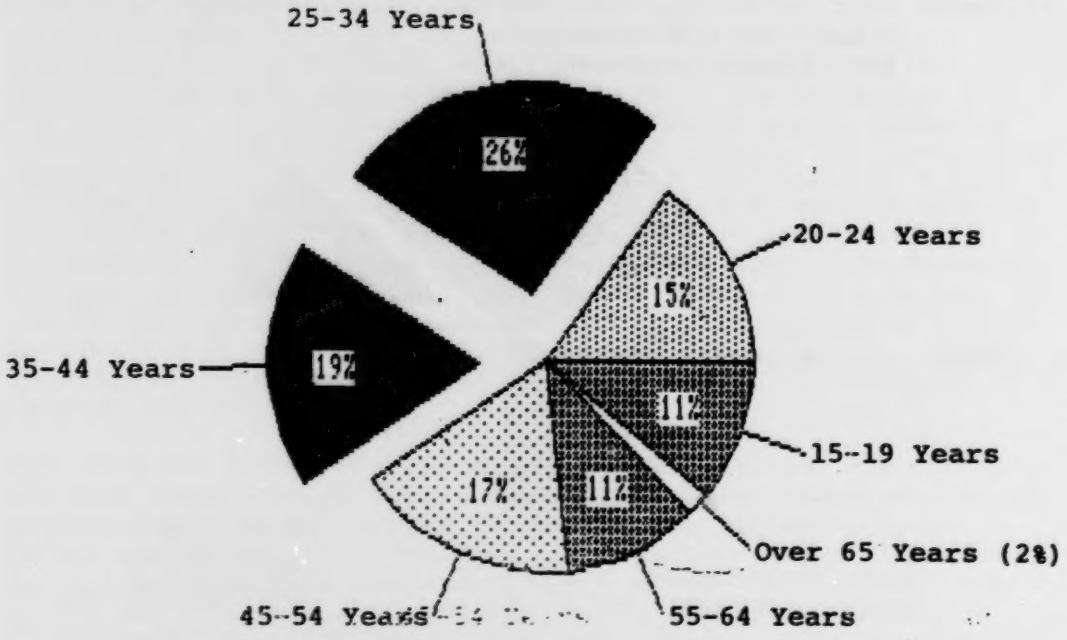


FIGURE 7 : AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CENTRAL COAST LABOUR FORCE
(BASED ON 1976 CENSUS DATA)

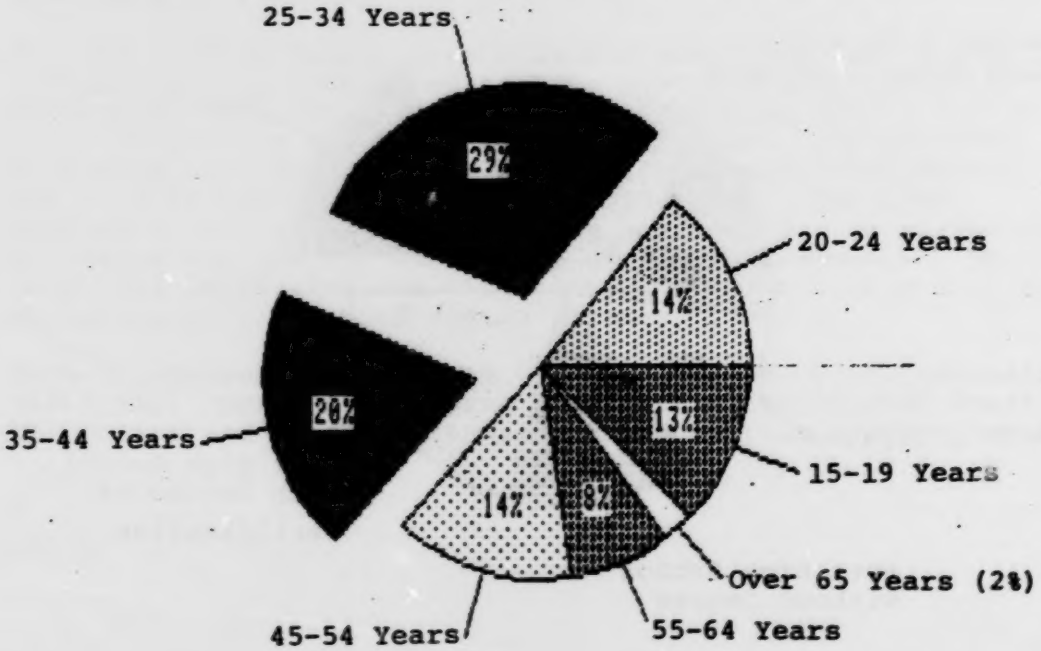


FIGURE 8 : EDUCATION LEVEL OF THE B.C. LABOUR FORCE
(BASED ON 1976 CENSUS DATA)

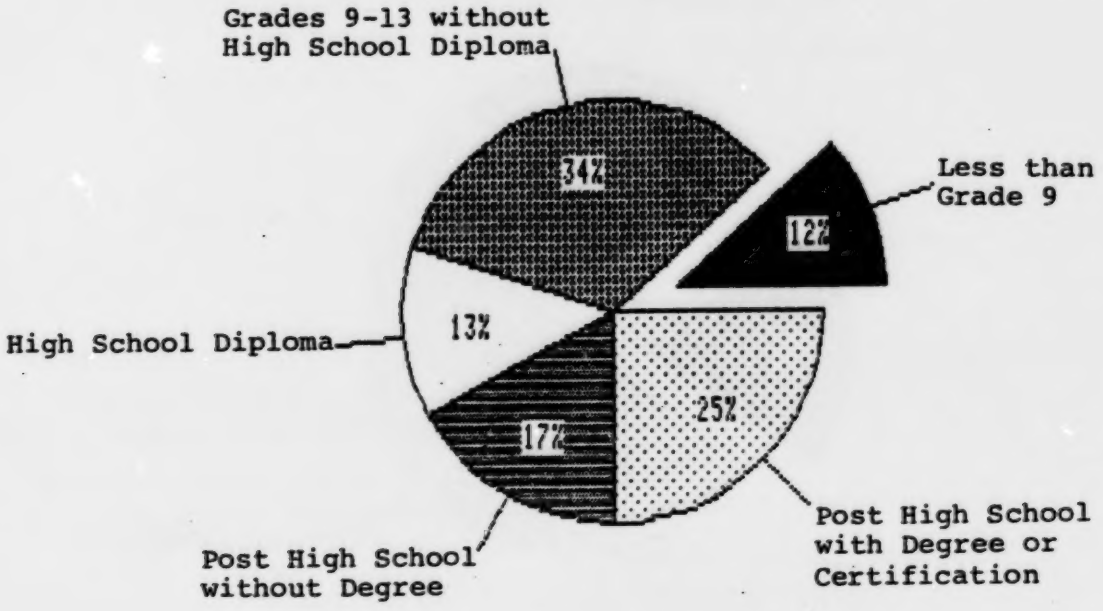
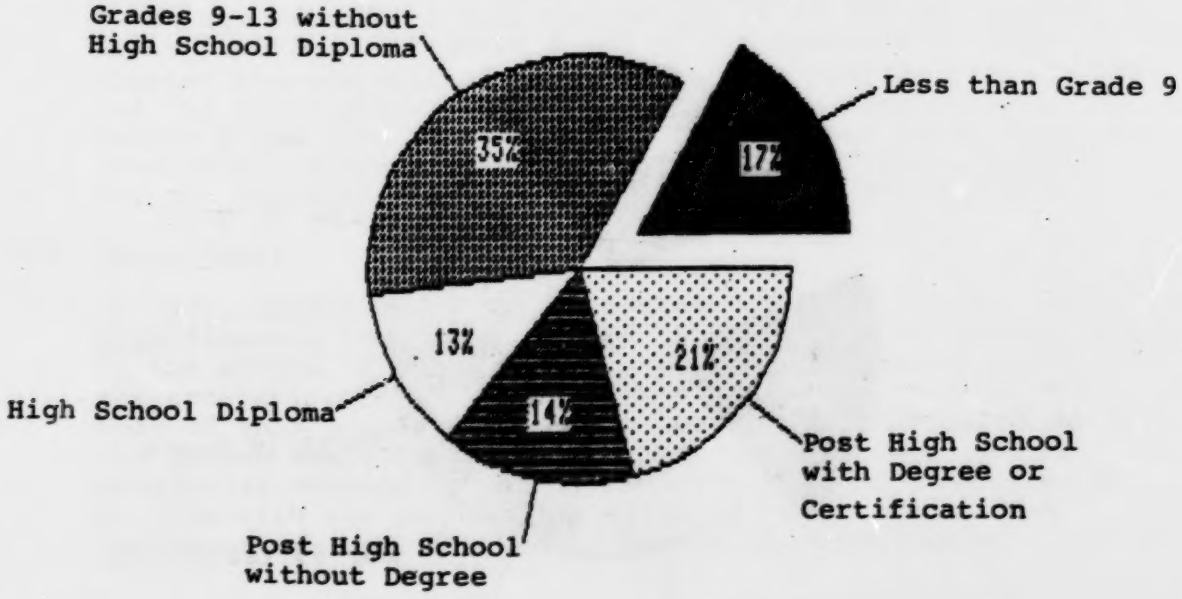


FIGURE 9 : EDUCATION LEVEL OF THE CENTRAL COAST LABOUR FORCE
(BASED ON 1976 CENSUS DATA)



4.0 ECONOMY

4.1 Forestry

The forest industry has played an important role in the development of the Central Coast Regional District and today is a major factor affecting the area's economy. In 1976 forestry employed almost 800 persons (including four sawmills which provided jobs for 10 persons). The only major processor in the Regional District was the Ocean Falls Corporation which provided almost half of the forestry employment. Today, logging and a few small scale sawmills represent the forestry activity in the region. Without local processing, all the wood is exported to the Lower BC coast. The two largest logging operations involve MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. which administers Tree Farm Licence 39 and Crown Zellerbach of Canada Ltd. which currently logs Dean Channel during the summer and fall, and South Bentinck Arm during the winter and spring. Other large timber allocations belong to Belize Forest Products Ltd., BC Forest Products Ltd., Doman Industries Ltd., Mayo Forest Products Ltd., and Weldwood of Canada Ltd.

The forests of the Central Coast lie within the boundaries of the Mid Coast Timber Supply Area (TSA) which forms a portion of the Ministry of Forests Prince Rupert Region. As a management unit, this TSA evolved from the former Dean and Rivers Inlet Public Sustained Yield Units (PSYU). All the potentially harvestable volume in the TSA is contained in overmature (over 250 years old) age classes which represent 74% of the productive land base.

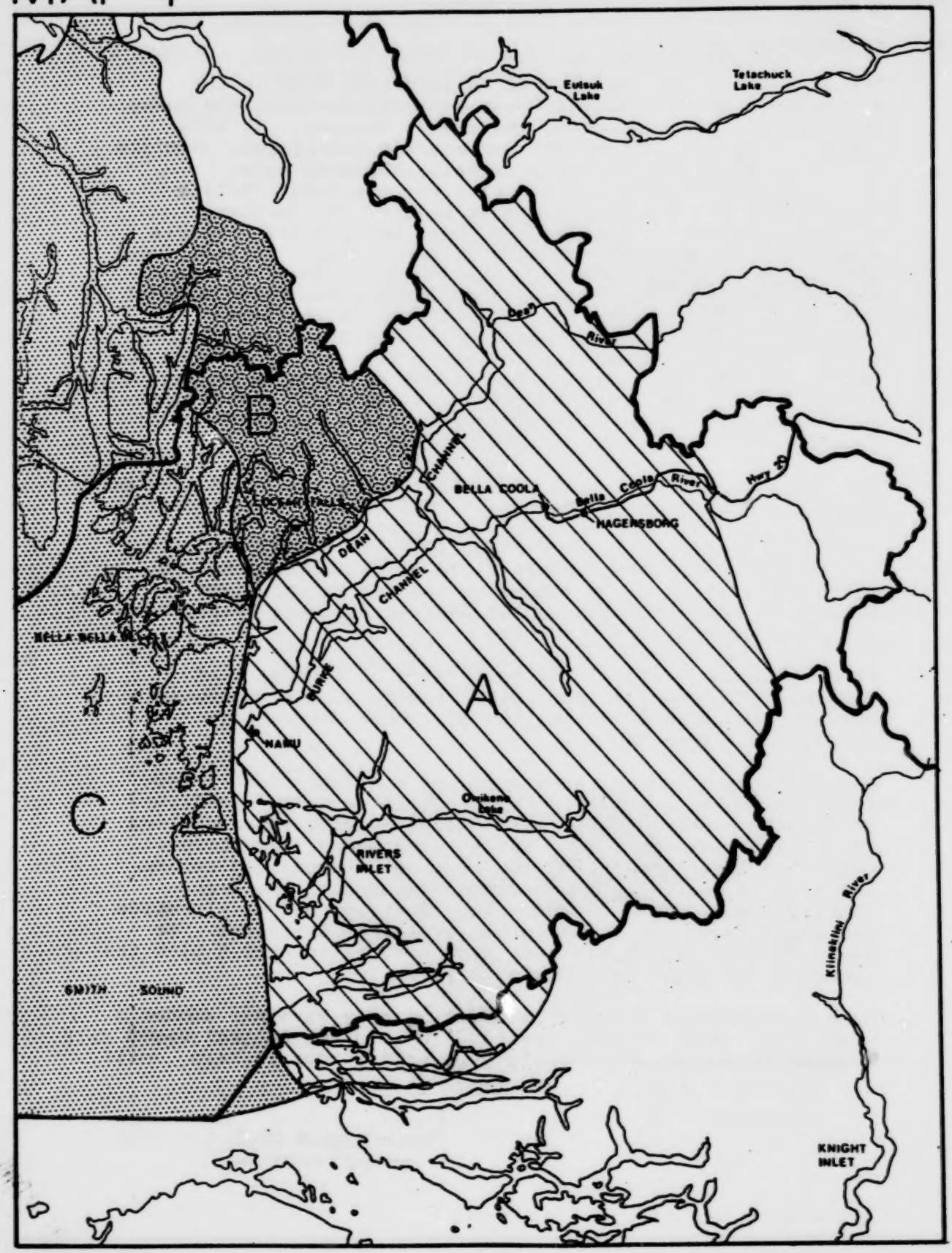
Three geographic areas were delineated on the basis of transportation routes, ecological trends, forest managment regimen, and economic viability of timber harvesting operations. (See Map 4.)

For the Central Coast, Area A is the most important forest resource and is considered to have good economic viability. It largely consists of normal coastal logging opportunities which facilitate medium to large-sized camps, conventional high-lead logging methods, log storage in protected waters, and 9 to 10 month minimum operating seasons. The high quality timber grows on the valley bottoms, but as elevation increases the quality and volume of timber decreases. To date, all harvesting has been concentrated in Area A with the exception of minor handlogging volumes.

Area B represents a resource offering only marginal economic viability. Most of this area lies within the Central Coast boundaries and is characterized by precipitous terrain, small

MAP 4

FORESTRY



potential harvesting operations, and poorer quality timber. These factors contribute to high development costs and to short operating seasons. Demand for timber in this area has been small and mainly involves handloggers. Current licencees are not expected to seek timber from this area during the next 25-30 years.

About one-half of Area C lies within the Central Coast Regional District. It has poor economic viability prospects and demand has again only originated with hand loggers and one small business operation. The limiting factors outlined in Area B are far more severe in Area C. In addition, Area C is characterized by very poor drainage which leads to high road construction costs in most locations.

The timber supply, excluding marginal stands*, can be summarized as follows:

Area	Coniferous Volume (1000 m3)	Species Distribution % Fir	Spruce	Hemlock/Balsam	Cedar
A	169,960	5.1	6.4	50.8	14.9
B	22,350	1.1	9.5	38.3	24.6
C	8,897	0.5	5.0	14.6	17.7

*Marginal stands are those dominated by timber of height 20.1 m to 28.9 m (66 ft to 95 ft). These stands are generally low in volume and quality, and are often poor economic prospects.

The majority of logging operations are working on the accessible sites in the large river valleys. When first pass logging in valley bottoms is completed, operations will be forced to move onto higher side slopes and into more rugged terrain in the upper reaches of watersheds. This requires increased care and investment in road construction. Skyline and aerial systems will also be required to harvest timber in many valleys where road access is either too costly or damaging to the environment.

The heavy rainfall creates a greater need for managing water runoff and river sedimentation. Water management requirements of the Central Coast are especially important because the region's streams have a high fisheries value. Logging operations tend to be carried out on several fronts in order to achieve the allowable cut without damaging any single watershed.

Operators are harvesting the better sites and species by conventional highlead and A-frame logging systems. If this practice is continued, the current harvest level can be maintained for 30 years. Long-term supplies will be limited by the economics of using alternative harvesting technology. There is enough fiber available for long-term requirements, but it is of poor quality and difficult to reach. To maintain the present harvest levels, the industry will be

required to use more of the marginal timber and to improve tree growth on the better sites through intensive management techniques. Any harvesting methods devised must overcome the constraints imposed by the need to protect fish habitat.

In the past ten years, several processing alternatives have been proposed for the Bella Coola Valley. these have included:

- a plywood plant - 150 MMSF 3/8 inch annual capacity
  - employing 326 persons in logging and the mill
- a sawmill - 114 MMFBM annual capacity
  - employing 461 persons in logging and the mill
- a sawmill - 60 MMFBM annual capacity
  - employing 225 persons in logging and the mill.

In 1977 Doman Industries Ltd. was successful in its bid for a special sale of 16,000 MCF of timber from the Dean PSYU and 8,000 MCF from the Rivers Inlet PSYU for a 20 year period. The terms called for construction of a pulp mill and sawmill. The timing and site for such a project, however, are not known. Doman Industries has partially satisfied these terms by building its Duke Point sawmill near near Nanaimo. The pulp mill project has been delayed because of poor economics. However, the future site of a new Doman Industries pulp mill is likely to be on Vancouver Island, rather than within the Central Coast boundaries, because of the need for a substantial supply of power and chips (normally from nearby sawmills).

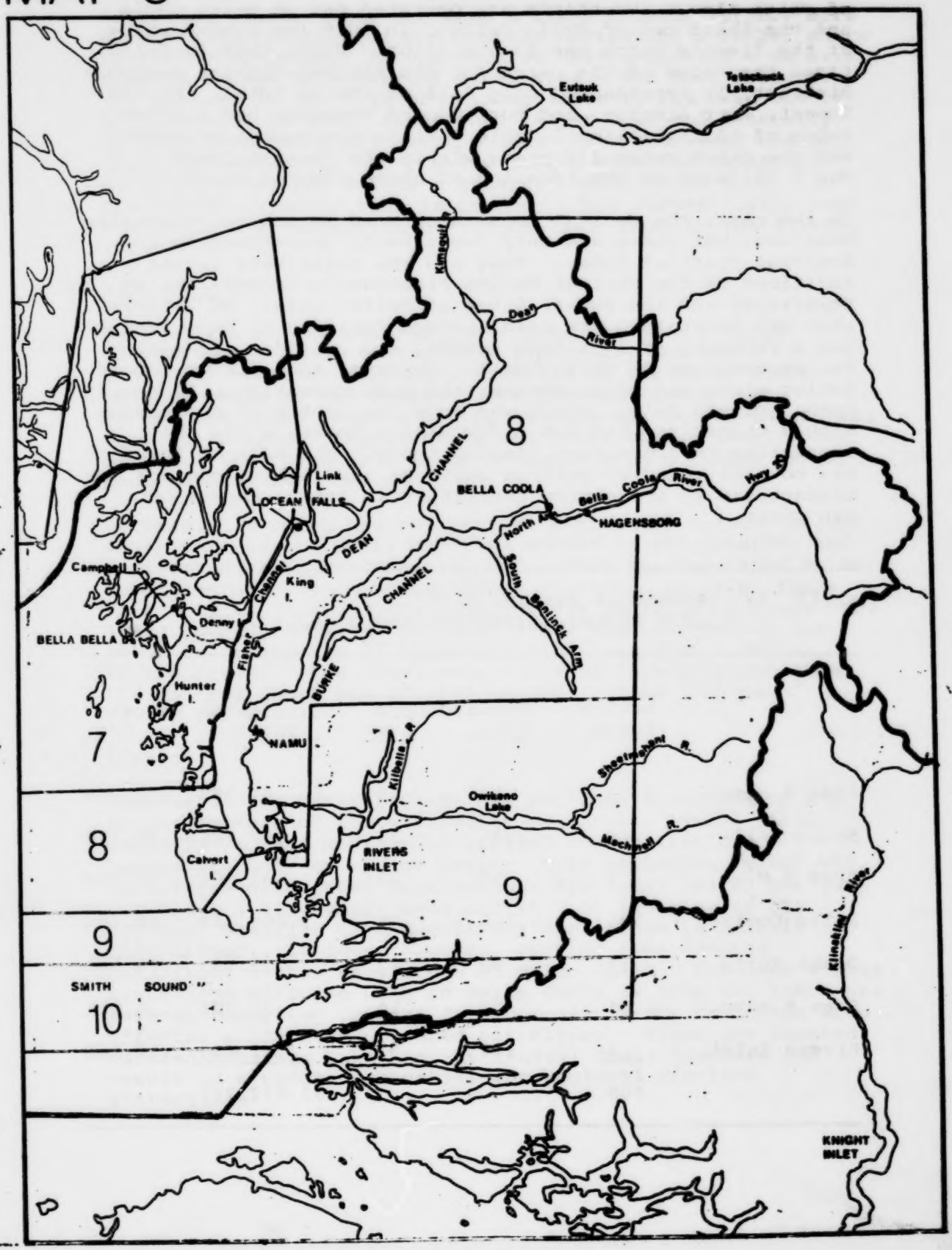
The Ocean Falls site has also been the subject of redevelopment concepts. While a licence could be obtained to cut timber stands in the area, the quality is not suitable for the existing groundwood pulp machinery. The level of capital required to build a new Kraft mill on the site is high and the probable returns are low. Until the poor economic conditions of the forest industry show major improvement, the future of processing at Ocean Falls and of other potential processing plants in the region will remain cloudy. Logging is expected to remain the mainstay of the region's forest economy for the foreseeable future.

4.2 Fishing

Fishing forms an important component of the Central Coast's economy and it is particularly valuable to several small isolated communities. The rivers and streams in the Regional District provide spawning and rearing areas for all five species of Pacific salmon and sea-run populations of rainbow and cutthroat trout. This provides an important base for the region's commercial, sport and Native subsistence fishing activities. (The Rivers Inlet annual sockeye run is the second largest in BC.) The shoreline provides a breeding ground for herring which use the shallow waters of the Central Coast's sheltered bays, rocky shores, and sandy beaches to deposit their spawn on aquatic vegetation.

MAP 5

FISHING



The commercial fishing fleet involves in excess of 160 boats of which almost two-thirds are operated out of Bella Coola and one-third out of Bella Bella. In 1979 the landed value of the fleet's catch was $3.5 million. While this is 2-1/2 times the value of the catch for the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District, it represented only 1.1% of the BC total. (Prince Rupert, Port Simpson, and Port Edward together had a catch value of $43.5 million.) Table 4 lists the number of boats and the catch value for areas within the Central Coast. Map 5 illustrates the location of these fishing areas.

In the past, the Central Coast harboured an active processing business, but there are only two cannery operations in the Regional District today. They are the relatively recent additions of the Central Native Fishermen's Cooperative at Shearwater and the Smoker House at Bella Coola. BC Packers Ltd. has maintained its cold storage facility at Namu (which has a capacity of 2 million pounds) and provides off-season net warehousing at Bella Coola. However, some discussion is taking place regarding whether the Namu operation will remain open. Rivers Inlet, which was once the centre of processing with 9 canneries, has but a few active boats as its only connection to commercial fishing today. The bulk of the fish are now collected by packing boats at the fishing grounds and transported to processing facilities in Prince Rupert or Vancouver.

TABLE 4: COMMERCIAL FISHING FLEET
(1979 FEDERAL FISHERIES AND OCEANS)

	Active Boats	Fishing Days Total	Fishing Days Ave.	Catch Value Total	Catch Value Ave.
Area 7 Misc.	3	54	18	$ 41,903	$13,968
Bella Bella	46	1,631	35	1,369,782	29,778
Area 8 Misc.	3	95	32	44,398	14,799
Bella Coola	104	3,568	34	2,099,349	20,186
Ocean Falls	2	83	42	25,991	12,996
Area 9 Misc.	4	57	14	18,205	4,551
Rivers Inlet	3	152	51	32,663	10,888
	165			$3,632,291	

In recent years, there has been a trend towards larger, more mechanized, better equipped vessels harvesting a larger share of the total catch. Recent studies have indicated a general need to reduce BC's overall fleet size. For four decades, the pattern in the fish processing industry has been one of amalgamation of small firms into larger ones and generally towards fewer more efficient plants. The increased use of improved technology has created more productive capacity. However, there now exists a general condition of more processing capacity than is needed. This leaves little room for industrial expansion in the Central Coast in the fishing industry.

4.3 Agriculture

Agriculture in the Central Coast does not have a large economic impact on the region. Topography and soils generally restrict farming activities to the Bella Coola Valley. Most of the Valley floor has been designated Agricutural Land Reserve but production has tended to address only the personal requirements and needs of the small local market. The farms tend to be oriented around fodder crops, beef cattle, and some poultry.

Commercial farming has not been an attractive option because local markets are small and road access to the interior and southern coastal markets is poor. Farm revenues tend to be supplemented by income from other sources. In 1976, there were only 11 census farms covering 811 ha (2,003 acres). The trend towards small hobby sized farms has resulted in the 1981 census showing 22 farms covering less than 1,010 ha (2,500 acres). The total sale value of farm products from the Central Coast was $71,329 in 1981 (or an average of $3,242 per farm).

4.4 Tourism

Tourism in the Central Coast has not been developed to any extent because of the difficulty of access. Bella Bella, Ocean Falls, and many small coastal communities are accessible only by air or water. This isolation factor has encouraged wilderness developments for local users, but they represent a very small base market. At the edge of the Regional District lies Tweedsmuir Park which is largely undeveloped. It does, however, provide some camping facilities within easy reach of Bella Coola. The land access route from Williams Lake to Bella Coola is long and there are several competing tourist developments in the Chilcotin area offering wilderness oriented activities. These are located between Williams Lake and the Central Coast boundary and result in a reduced potential for Regional District attractions.

The region's tourist attractions include:

a) Wilderness experiences which are generally available throughout the region and particularly in Tweedsmuir Provincial Park.
b) Fishing on the Dean River, Bella Coola River, Rivers Inlet, and ocean sport fishing in general. (The Dean River has the highest figures for steelhead catches per angler day in BC. Neither river is heavily fished, but Rivers Inlet is very popular with anglers.)
c) Big game hunting which is available on a guided basis from Bella Coola.
d) Indian totems which are located at Bella Coola.

The tourist accommodation developments available in the Central Coast are limited in both variety and location. Table 5 lists the accommodation facilities available. The parks are shown on Map 3.

The Central Coast is not on a well travelled tourist or commercial route and does not have a major destination resort development. (Note: The relatively new sport fishing enterprise at Shearwater could develop into a significant destination attraction.) With the possible exception of fishing , there are few attractions which offer benefits not available in more accessible areas of the Province. Even with improved transportation routes, the isolation factor is likely to remain a deterrent to the development of tourism.

4.5 Mining, Manufacturing and Service Industries

The level of mining and mineral exploration is very low in the Central Coast. There are no currently producing mines in the region and, unlike the adjacent Kitimat-Stikine Regional District, there is no history of productive deposits in the area.

The manufacturing sector for the Central Coast was originally dominated by fish processing plants. As Ocean Falls developed and fish processing activities consolidated, the pulp mill became the centre of manufacturing and the major employer in the Regional District. With the exception of the two relatively small canneries described under "Fishing", local processing capacity for the Regional District's natural resources did not exist at the time this report was prepared.

There is little export oriented manufacturing occurring in the Central Coast. The high transportation costs, the difficulty of access to outside markets, the lack of a cheap power source, together with a small local market have not encouraged the development of secondary manufacturing. The 1980 BC Manufacturer's Directory lists the Caledon Boat Works in Bella Bella and Shearwater Marine Ltd. as the only nonfish

TABLE 5: ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES AND PARKS

Name	Units	Location
Bay Motor Hotel	27	Bella Coola
Bella Coola Motel	10	Bella Coola
Cedar Inn	20	Bella Coola
Robin's Nest Hotel	4	Hagensborg
Bella Coola Fly Ins	2	Tweedsmuir Park
Talchako Lodge	8	Tweedsmuir Park
Tweedsmuir Lodge	12*	Tweedsmuir Park
Martin Inn	**	Ocean Falls
Fishermen's Inn	24	Shearwater
Heiltsuk Hotel	14	Bella Bella IR (Waglisla)

Parks	Campsites	Size	Location
Sagar Lake Park	undeveloped	166 ha	King Island
Sir Alexander MacKenzie Park	undeveloped	5 ha	39 km (24 mi) NE of Ocean Falls
Snootli Creek Park	15	45 ha	Bella Coola
Tweedsmuir Park	38	198,120 ha	56 km (35 mi) E of Bella Coola

* also 9 campsites
** operated on a limited basis, potentially 400

processing manufacturers in the Central Coast. Together these operations are described as employing 16 to 30 people. Some small-scale manufacturing takes place in the Bella Coola Valley and particularly at the Bella Coola townsite. Here there is a tradition of cottage industries which include the small scale manufacture and repair of equipment needed locally for logging, fishing, farming, and household use.

The Bella Bella area and the Bella Coola Valley are the two population centres of the region, but the position of the latter on the only land transportation route has encouraged its development as the centre for commercial and retail service. The small population base, for the Bella Coola Valley and for the Regional District as a whole, does not warrant a well developed service centre. The choices are limited in financial, professional and industrial services. As might be expected, only the retail sector shows any development variety. Table 6 illustrates the general level of service available and dispersion of businesses in the Regional District.

TABLE 6: SERVICE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

	Number of Business Establishments*			
Sector	Bella Coola	Hagensborg	Waglisla-Bella Bella-Shearwater	Ocean Falls
Financial	2		1	
Professional/ Business Support	1			
Industrial	5	3	6	
Hospitality	3	1	2	1
Retail	11	8	2	1

*These figures represent the approximate number of businesses in each category. Some businesses have been removed to make comparisons more relevant. A more detailed presentation of this sector is available in the individual community profiles.

5.0 INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

5.1 Transportation

5.1.1 Road

The population centres in the Regional District of the Central Coast are isolated and do not have the benefit of an interconnecting highway system. In fact Highway 20, which spans the 480 km of road (300 miles) between Bella Coola and Williams Lake is the region's only land connection to the rest of BC and it is the only land-based transportation route in the whole Regional District.

The cost of manpower, construction materials, and total capital investment for new roads is substantial. Construction is difficult and expensive because of the region's rugged terrain, numerous water courses to negotiate, and the long distances between communities. Highway 20 was completed in 1953 by residents of the Bella Coola Valley. The road through Tweedsmuir Park is narrow, rough and twisting. As it approaches Heckman Pass from Bella Coola, the road rises 1,220 meters (4,000 ft) in a distance of 14.5 km (9 miles). Even today much of the distance to Williams Lake is still gravel surfaced.

The small size of the population and its related market demands have discouraged major land transportation companies from offering comprehensive services. Cariboo West Stage Lines offers a once weekly bus service from Bella Coola to Williams Lake. In addition, four trucking firms offer:

2 trucks for service from Bella Coola to Vancouver
1 truck for service from Bella Coola to Edmonton
1 truck for service from Bella Coola to Williams Lake
1 truck for service from Ocean Falls to Parksville via BC Ferries (on a once per 3 week basis).

5.1.2 Rail

There is no rail service available to any community in the Central Coast.

5.1.3 Air

Air transport is an important mode of transportation for this region. The Bella Coola Valley has a paved 1,220 meter (4,000 ft) landing strip complete with a terminal building, hangars, fuel supply depot, and car rental outlet. Daily commercial service is provided by Air BC and Wilderness Airline from Vancouver. Bella Bella offers the only other

landing strip for land-based planes. It is gravel surfaced, 457 meters (1,500 ft) long, and is used by Gulf Air to provide a daily service to Bella Coola and Port Hardy.

Marine landing strips are located at Bella Coola, Shearwater, and Ocean Falls. Commercial service is offered by:

Air BC - Bella Bella, Ocean Falls, and Vancouver
Waglisla Airline - Bella Bella, Ocean Falls, Bella Coola, Rivers Inlet, and Klemtu
Trans Provincial Airlines - Bella Bella and Prince Rupert

5.1.4 Water

Water transport is also an important link in the life-line which supplies the remote communities in the region. There are many wharfs or floats in the region including the following locations:

Rivers Inlet
Waglisla
Ocean Falls
Bella Bella
Shearwater
Bella Coola
Namu.

Most, however, are used for mooring fishing boats. Only Ocean Falls has a harbour designed to accommodate deep sea shipping. The government wharf at Bella Coola was recently destroyed by fire and at the time of this report plans are being made to replace it .

BC Ferries service stops once per week for full dock facilities at Ocean Falls and for foot passengers at Waglisla. Coast Ferries Ltd. provides a weekly service from Vancouver to Shearwater. More detailed information on the water facilities are contained in the individual Community Profiles.

5.2 Electric Power

BC Hydro and Power Authority supplies power to meet the residential and commercial needs of the area with the exception of Ocean Falls. The Ocean Falls Corporation operates a hydro electric power plant at Link Lake which provides electricity for the maintenance of the town facilities and for the residents of the Ocean Falls area. The communities of Waglisla, Bella Bella, and Bella Coola are supplied from diesel generating units.

BC Hydro is actively investigating small hydro power developments in the Central Coast. If this option proves favorable and viable, it will reduce the cost of power and be a more reliable source of supply.

5.3 Natural Gas and Other Fuels

Natural gas is not available, coal is not used, and propane is readily available only at Bella Coola. Fuel oil is available in Bella Coola, Waglisla, and Shearwater but has to be brought in by barrel at Ocean Falls. Gasoline is readily available only at Waglisla and Bella Coola. This lack of local fuels is due to the small population, small demand levels, and the isolated nature of the communities.

5.4 Communications

Communication in the Regional District tends to be at a basic service level. Sophisticated systems are not warranted by the level of business activity and the level of dealings with the outside world.

BC Telephone Company serves the Central Coast and is linked through the Trans Canada Telephone System to telecommunication facilities throughout Canada and around the world.

Radio, television, and newspapers require large audiences before local production is feasible. There are no such local productions in the Central Coast. The region receives CBC radio and television signals and relies on Lower Mainland newspapers which are available to Bella Bella and Bella Coola on a daily basis. Several communities mentioned that multiple TV channel reception was available through the use of local satellite equipment.

5.5 Community Infrastructure

All communities contacted offer some type of community delivered water system. While two of the major centres contacted indicated the use of multiple or separate reservoir systems, none indicated a heavy reliance on private wells. Waglisla and the Ocean Falls townsites offer sewer systems, but all other communities use septic tanks. There is no residential garbage pickup in the Central Coast and only one refuse dump which is currently administered by the Regional District.

RCMP services are located only at Bella Coola and at Waglisla, and no community has a full-time judicial service. The communities of Ocean Falls, Waglisla, Bella Coola, and Hagensborg have local fire protection in the form of trucks and a regular volunteer force. The details of the above infrastructure characteristics are listed in the individual Community Profiles.

5.6 Medical Facilities

As with some other community funded services, full medical facilities require a large population to warrant the investment. Bella Coola and Waglisla are well served by 20 bed hospitals and several public health nurses. In the balance of the Central Coast, doctors and nurses visit the communities on a regular basis.

5.7 Education

Education facilities are centralized. Only Bella Coola and Waglisla offer education facilities which span primary school to high school. The other communities offer limited primary or no local education service. This necessitates commuting or taking correspondence courses. Bella Coola offers post secondary courses through a correspondence outlet of the North Island College.

5.8 Housing

There are limited vacancies in both rental and private residential dwellings throughout the Regional District. In Bella Coola, Waglisla and Shearwater some unserviced lots are available for residential development. At Ocean Falls the recent shrinkage in population has left many unoccupied homes but most are owned by the Ocean Falls Corporation and have been available on a rental or purchase basis only to company employees. Most of housing at the Ocean Falls townsite dates from the early 20th Century and as such is somewhat obsolete and in need of renovation prior to reoccuption. The housing details for each town contacted can be found in the individual Community Profiles.

5.9 Land Availability for Commercial and Industrial Use

Development in Bella Coola and Waglisla is guided by Official Settlement plans which outline pertinent restrictions and areas designated for special uses. Bella Coola has no vacant commercial buildings to offer, and developable land is limited by the topography and by the large tracts of land held in the Agricultural Land Reserve. Waglisla has land available for development by band members and has recently purchased the former BC Packers' cannery site on Denny Island. This provides additional developable land. However, development by non-band members has never been encouraged.

Shearwater has no formal zoning requirements. Despite its small size, Shearwater harbours several enterprising businesses. It offers an 800 meter (half mile) strip of waterfront property which is suitable for commercial development. It also has several Crown lots (0.2 to 1 ha or

1/2 to 2-1/2 acres) which can be used for either residential or approved commercial development.

Ocean Falls has restrictive topography. The current townsite has vacant buildings and the land would be suitable for redevelopment, if the Ocean Falls Corporation chose to sell the property.

6.Ø PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

6.1 Municipal Government

There are no incorporated communities in the Central Coast. The Native communities are administered by band councils but there are no local governments for the non-Native settlements. The provision of local services and infrastructure is handled by the Regional District office at Hagensborg.

6.2 Regional Government

The Regional District of the Central Coast is comprised of five Electoral Areas. The representatives are determined through general elections held every two years. Members of the Regional District Board in 1982 are as follows:

Electoral Area	Representative
A	Barry Williamsen
B	Clarence Martin
C	William Parr (Chairman)
D	Tony Norton
E	Tim Kendrick

Statutory functions of the Regional District include planning and building inspection authority in unorganized areas outside of municipal boundaries and the administration of hospitals.

Although the Central Coast Regional District has jurisdiction over all non-Native settlements in the region, it has only one full-time employee. Normally, the current planning function includes zoning amendments, subdivision referrals, and Crown land referrals. The long-range planning function usually encompasses resource planning, official plans, and implementation of by-laws. With a single-person office, there is no planning department. A settlement plan for the Bella Coola Valley was handled on a subcontract basis. The planning role in general has not received much attention. There are no active Advisory Planning Commissions existing in the Central Coast.

While nothing formal has occurred to date, the Regional District Board has begun to consider the need for economic development direction (or coordination) and the possible need for some form of strategic planning. At the time of this study, the Kitimat-Stikine Economic Development Commission, located in Terrace, has the mandate to promote development

and to create job opportunities in the Central Coast, Stikine, and Kitimat-Stikine Regional Districts. This Commission responds to economic development inquiries, special commissions, special studies, and assists small business in making applications for business aids and grants provided by the federal and provincial governments. In 1982 the Commission is lead by:

Lee Ellis - Chairman
Percy Tait - Vice Chairman
John Pousette - Commissioner.

The Central Coast Regional District has, however, recently discussed setting up its own economic development commission. It is felt that a resident commissioner is needed to stimulate and coordinate development interests and activities.

In its administrative role, the Central Coast Regional District Board functions as the Regional Hospital District Board. It is responsible for financing the capital developments of the Bella Coola General Hospital. The Regional District also administers:

- refuse sites
- Hagensborg airport
- a recreation program (whose facilities include a swimming pool).

6.3 Senior Government

Although the provincial and federal governments have offices throughout the Regional District, they tend to be concentrated in the Bella Coola-Hagensborg area.

The provincial government is chiefly responsible within the region for resource management services including mineral licenses and extraction, forest management, water quality and pollution control, agriculture, and agricultural land. The province also provides health and social welfare services (including region-wide provincial ambulance services), vehicle licensing, road construction and maintenance, and administers the judicial system through the provincial courts and correctional institutes.

The federal government provides regional support which includes postal services, police services, meteorological services, Indian Affairs, and water surveys.

Table 8 in Appendix I illustrates the location of various government offices throughout the Regional District.

7.0 REGIONAL ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

The Central Coast is a relatively undeveloped area with a narrow resource base. Forests, hydro power, and fish are the primary natural resources available. The following regional characteristics, however, tend to act as hurdles to rapid development:

- small population base
- isolated population centres
- lack of a developed internal transportation system
- difficult access from outside the region
- distance from major markets
- history of a population attitude which favours independence and self-sufficiency.

The recent closure of Ocean Falls and the resulting loss of its population base has encouraged the Regional District Board to consider establishing an Economic Development Commission. It is felt that a resident commissioner is needed to stimulate and coordinate development interests and activities. While logging and fishing are expected to continue as the mainstays of regional employment, development is most likely to occur in manufacturing and tourism. An important objective should be to re-establish local facilities to process regional resources. The unused hydro power source at Ocean Falls may attract a new manufacturer to the region or it may encourage the development of a forestry processor when industry prosperity improves. The relative abundance and quality of fresh and salt water fishing in the region increases tourism potential . The successful efforts at Shearwater indicate that the area's isolation, wilderness, and tranquil attributes can be used to attract tourists to the area. Any development efforts, however, will have to deal effectively with the difficulty and expense associated with regional access.

8.0 BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS

I. Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development

1. Export Assistance

The Trade and Industry Division sponsors four programs designed to generate a sustained expansion in the export of British Columbia goods and services. The four programs are:

(a) Trade Mission Program
supports and organizes several trade missions abroad each year;

(b) Market Development Program
assists firms in assessing potential export market opportunities and in establishing marketing arrangements outside the province;

(c) Incoming Buyers Program
assists firms in attracting potential buyers from outside the Province;

(d) Trade Show Assistance Program
provides financial assistance to support trade shows;

2. Technical Assistance Program

This program aims to provide companies with an incentive to expand their facilities, diversify their product lines, or enter new businesses by studying a specified aspect of their operations. Studies can range from marketing to financing to production analysis and must be conducted by outside consultants.

3. Information Services Program

This service provides an assessment of, or information on, subjects related to doing business in British Columbia.

4. Small Business Assistance Program

   This program provides management information, business counselling and organizational analysis to new and established small businesses throughout British Columbia.

5. LIFT -- Small Manufacturers' Development Assistance (SMDA) Program

   The SMDA Program is intended to encourage and assist the modernization, expansion and establishment of small manufacturing, processing and high technology businesses in British Columbia by providing interest-free forgivable loans for capital expenditures. The program is designed to assist in the acquisition of machinery, equipment and leasehold improvements (eligible capital costs) for developments which do not exceed $100,000 in eligible capital costs. For new businesses or for processes which involve the manufacture of new products, the program may provide funding assistance of 50% of the eligible capital costs up to a maximum assistance level of $30,000. Projects involving the expansion or modernization of an existing business may be eligible for funding assistance of 30% of the eligible capital costs up to a maximum assistance level of $18,000. Other requirements include the need for commercial viability, job creation and equity contribution to the project.

For further information on the above programs, direct inquiries to:

Ministry of Industry and
Small Business Development
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 3C1

(or)

Ministry of Industry and
Small Business Development
Suite 315, Robson Square
800 Hornby Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6Z 2C5

II. British Columbia Development Corporation (BCDC)

The Corporation offers assistance to industry through three programs:

1. Low Interest Loan Assistance

   This provides assistance to businesses that wish to modernize, expand or establish new manufacturing or processing facilities.

2. Financing Assistance

   This assistance is in the form of term loans or loan guarantees for the purchase of land, equipment, construction of buildings, working capital, etc.

3. Industrial Land Program

   This program sells or leases industrial land at rates attractive to industry. BCDC is the sales agent and administrator of Crown industrial and commercial lands.

For further information on BCDC programs, contact:

British Columbia Development Corporation
272 Granville Square
200 Granville Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6C 1S4

B. JOINT FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS

I. Industrial Development Subsidiary Agreement

This agreement is funded through the federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion and the provincial Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development. There are four programs operating in the target area defined as "British Columbia excluding the Lower Mainland and Southern Vancouver Island".

1. Research Program

The intent of this program is to provide for private consultant studies of specific industrial opportunities including technical, marketing and feasibility studies and the preparation of special reports determining the needs and costs of community infrastructure inputs if selected industrial opportunities are to be realized.

2. Community Industrial Development

The objectives of this program are:

- to encourage the development of Economic Development Commissions in each of the main economic regions of the province;
- to ensure the supply of competitively priced industrial land in the key regional centers and
- to encourage industrial development by supporting industrial parks and sites or, in special cases, industrial malls, or advance factory space.

3. Assistance to Small Enterprise Program

This program is designed to assist the modernization, expansion or establishment of small businesses which, because of size or function, would not normally meet the criteria of existing incentive programs. The Agreement provides interest-free forgivable loans to new or established small enterprises involved in manufacturing or processing, or maintenance or repair relating to the manufacturing sector.

For further information direct inquiries to:

I.D.S.A.
c/o Ministry of Industry
and Small Business Development
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 3C1

(or)

I.D.S.A.
Department of Regional
Economic Expansion
600 - 1175 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 2E1

II. Travel Industry Development Subsidiary Agreement

This is a federal-provincial agreement designed to boost the travel industry and to improve Canada's balance of payments by development of strategies in five program areas:

1. Planning

Planning will develop long-term strategies for the travel industry of British Columbia by identifying trends, gaps, and future directions, and by conducting feasibility and opportunity studies. This will include resource inventories by geographic area and the formation of regional and community travel industry data banks.

2. Industry Organization

The second program will develop the institutional structure needed to coordinate travel industry associations. Thus, the industry will be assisted in development of operational plans, implementation of programs, training policies and information services.

Training programs in travel industry services will be instituted for management and staff.

3. Industry Upgrading

This program will upgrade travel industry facilities and infrastructure in the target area. It includes financial assistance, through low interest or forgivable loans, for new and expanded facilities such as resorts, motels, and certain others.

4. Travel Generators

The fourth program will support creation, improvement, or expansion of major travel generators in selected destination areas within the province. These are things for people to see and do which will entice them to stay longer.

Included would be high calibre tourist attractions such as cultural centres, special-interest parks, restored historic sites and settlements, and developed natural attractions.

5. Skiing Development

This program will aid development of world class ski resorts offering year-round, multi-recreational facilities. In addition, assistance will be provided to regional and local facilities.

For further information, contact:

The Director
Travel Industry Development
Assistance Program
Ministry of Industry and Small
Business Development
1205 Broad Street, 2nd Floor
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 3G5

(or)

Manager
Program Implementation
Government of Canada
Department of Regional
Economic Expansion
600 - 1175 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 2E1

III. Agriculture and Rural Development Subsidiary Agreement

The intent of this federal-provincial program is to encourage development of the agricultural sector and food processing industry in rural British Columbia.

1. Research, Planning, Training and Market Promotion

New opportunities in agriculture will be identified and developed to improve stability and employment through the use of research, long-term planning, training projects and market promotion.

2. Coordinated Resource Management

This program is designed to increase the grazing capacity of Crown range and help stabilize the beef industry by taking full advantage, along with all users, of available resources.

3. Primary Resource Development

The objective of this program is to encourage improvement of underdeveloped land that can be intensively cultivated for crops that have production and market potential.

4. Support Services and Community Development

Assistance is available under this program for secondary food processing and a wide range of support services aimed at improving rural employment opportunities and agricultural stability.

For further information, contact:

ARDA Coordinator
ARDA Branch
B.C. Ministry of Agriculture
Legislative Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4

(or) Manager, Program Implementation
Government of Canada
Department of Regional Economic Expansion
600 - 1175 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 2E1

IV. Special ARDA

This joint agreement is especially designed to provide residents, primarily of Indian ancestory, in rural areas with with new and better opportunities to improve their economic circumstances.

1. Assistance to Residents of Indian Ancestory

Assistance is available to projects that will

(a) improve the incomes of native people through employment in primary activities, or

(b) involve the establishment, expansion or modernization of any native business operated in or employing a significant number of native people, or

(c) provide counselling, training or related services not available under other federal or provincial programs.

2. Assistance to Remote Rural Areas

Remote rural communities having a significant native population may qualify for additional assistance to provide for:

(a) transportation and communication facilities, or

(b) the development of community recreation facilities.

For further information, direct inquiries to:

Special ARDA Program
Department of Regional Economic Expansion
600 - 1175 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 2E1

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

I. Department of Regional Economic Expansion

1. Regional Development Incentive Program

This federal program provides incentive grants and loan guarantees for the establishment, expansion or modernization of secondary manufacturing and processing operations in the designated area. Commercial facilities, including business offices, warehousing and freight-handling facilities, shopping centres, hotels, motels and convention centres are only eligible for loan guarantees. The eligible area basically includes the northern half of British Columbia from just south of 100 Mile House.

For further information, contact:

Manager, Industrial Development
Department of Regional Economic Expansion
600 - 1175 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 2E1

Telephone: 388-3986

(and)

Program Manager
Northern B.C. District
Department of Regional Economic Expansion
706 - 2999 Victoria Street
Prince George, British Columbia
V2L 5B8

Telephone 562-4451

II. Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce

1. Enterprise Development Program

This program assists eligible manufacturing and processing firms to become more viable and internationally competitive through grants and loans. The grants are available to help develop proposals for project assistance; to study market feasibility or productivity improvement; or to procure industrial design services or develop new technology. Loans or loan guarantees are to assist restructuring or rationalization.

2. Program for Export Market Development

   Incentives are offered under this program where there is a proven need to share the risk of developing and/or maintaining overseas markets; bidding on capital projects of unusual size or complexity; unusual international competition or creating an export consortium to meet sales opportunities abroad.

3. Specialized Industrial Development Support Programs and Services

   Financial assistance programs are also available for ship building, defense production, fashion design, grains and oil seeds marketing and a number of other areas.

For further information contact the:

Regional Office
Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce
P. O. Box 49178
Suite 2743, Bentall III
595 Burrard Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V7X 1K8

III. Federal Business Development Bank

This is a Crown Corporation which assists the growth and creation of business enterprises across Canada by providing them with financial and management services. It supplements such services available from others and it gives particular attention to the needs of smaller enterprises.

1. Financial Services

   Financial assistance is available by means of loans, loan guarantees, equity financing, leasing, or by any combination of these methods in whatever manner best suits the particular needs of the business.

2. Counselling Assistance to Small Enterprises

   CASE is a management counselling service wherein retired business persons act as counsellors on behalf of the Bank. Its purpose is to assist owners and managers of business enterprises to improve their methods of doing business.

3. Management Seminars

The Bank conducts a series of one-day management seminars at many centres across B.C. The seminar programs are designed particularly for small businesses and cover a variety of topics related to small business management.

4. Small Business Information Services

This is an information and referral service about government and other assistance programs for small business.

For further information, contact:

Federal Business Development Bank
British Columbia Region
900 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6C 1E7

D. OTHER PROGRAMS

The assistance programs which have been outlined above are considered to be the major programs applicable to the various regions of British Columbia. There are a number of other programs available from the various provincial Ministries and federal Departments. For details on these programs, please contact:

Provincial

Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 3C1

Federal

Department of Regional Economic Expansion
600 - 1175 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 2E1

APPENDIX I

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

TABLE I.1: AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION
(Based on 1981 Census Data)

	British Columbia		Central Coast Regional District	
	No.	%	No.	%
Population	2,744,467	100.0	3,047	100.0
Males	1,365,155	49.7	1,590	52.2

	British Columbia		Central Coast Regional District	
Age	Males	Males as % of Total	Males	Males as % of Total
0-4	98,080	51	140	48
5-9	96,700	51	150	50
10-14	106,590	51	150	54
15-19	122,255	51	160	50
20-24	124,855	50	135	50
25-34	245,340	50	295	52
35-44	174,335	51	205	55
45-54	144,020	52	155	57
55-64	121,145	47	100	50
65-69	50,360	47	50	63
over 70	81,470	43	60	63

TABLE I.2: AGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION
(Based on 1981 Census Data)

	British Columbia		Central Coast Regional District	
Age	No.	%	No.	%
0-4	191,205	7.0	290	9.5
5-9	189,020	6.9	300	9.8
10-14	208,080	7.6	280	9.2
15-19	239,280	8.7	320	10.5
20-24	251,330	9.2	270	8.9
25-34	489,890	17.8	565	18.7
35-44	341,200	12.4	375	12.3
45-54	279,435	10.2	270	8.8
55-64	256,845	9.4	200	6.6
65-69	108,030	3.9	80	2.6
over 70	190,150	6.9	95	3.1
	2,744,465	100.0	3,045	100.0

TABLE I.3: ETHNIC COMPOSITION
(Based on 1971 Census Data)

	British Columbia	Central Coast
British	58%	35%
French	4	2
Austrian	1	-
Chinese	2	1
Finnish	1	-
German	9	6
Hungarian	1	1
Italian	2	2
Japanese	1	-
Native	2	33
Netherlands	3	2
Polish	1	3
Russian	1	-
Scandinavian	5	9
Ukrainian	3	2
Other/Unknown	6	4
	100%	100%

TABLE I.4: ESTIMATION OF THE 1981 LABOUR FORCE SIZE

	Central Coast RD	Non Indian Reserve Areas	Indian Reserves		
			Bella Bella	Bella Coola	Katit
1976 Data					
Males	1,265	870	250	130	15
Females	610	415	125	65	5
Total Labour Force	1,875	1,285	375	195	20
Total Population	4,184	2,724	862	544	54
Participation Rate	44.8%	47.2%	43.5%	35.8%	37.0%
1981 Estimate					
Population (1981 Data)	3,074	1,774	659	571	43
Participation Rate (1976)	--	44.8%	43.5%	35.8%	37.0%
Labour Force	1,302	795	287	204	16

Assumptions:

1. In the non-Indian Reserve areas (except Ocean Falls) the labour force participation rate did not vary significantly from the Regional District average experienced in 1976.

2. The labour force participation rate did not change significantly between 1976 and 1981 in the Indian Reserves.

3. The reduced population in the non-Indian Reserve areas is entirely due to the closure of Ocean Falls.

Conclusion:

The 1981 labour force for the Central Coast is estimated to be 1,300 on a population base of 3,047. This implies a participation rate of 42.7%.

TABLE I.5: LABOUR FORCE BY INDUSTRY IN THE CENTRAL COAST (Based on 1971 Census Data)

	Labour Force	%
Agriculture	55	3.7
Forestry	210	14.0
Fishing & Trapping	55	3.7
Manufacturing	480	32.0
Construction	30	2.0
Transportation	45	3.0
Communication & Utilities	25	1.6
Trade (except Retail)	5	0.3
Trade (Retail)	70	4.7
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	15	1.0
Community, Business, and Personal Service Industries	275	18.3
Public Administration	55	3.7
Other	180	12.0
	1,500	100.0

TABLE I.6: AGE DISTRIBUTION OF LABOUR FORCE
(Based on 1976 Census Data)

	British Columbia		Central Coast Regional District	
Age	No.	%	No.	%
15-19	119,900	10.7	235	12.5
20-24	170,595	15.2	270	14.4
25-34	289,265	25.9	545	29.1
35-44	210,105	18.8	380	20.3
45-54	189,560	16.9	255	13.6
55-64	116,735	10.5	145	7.7
over 65	22,685	2.0	45	2.4
	1,118,845	100.0	1,875	100.0

TABLE I.7: EDUCATION LEVEL OF LABOUR FORCE
(Based on 1976 Census Data)

	British Columbia		Central Coast Regional District	
Education Level	No.	%	No.	%
Less than Grade 9	131,140	11.7	320	17.1
Grades 9-13 without High School Diploma	374,750	33.5	655	34.9
High School Diploma	146,710	13.1	235	12.5
Post High School without Certification or Degree	187,730	16.8	270	14.4
Post High School with Certification or Degree	278,515	24.9	395	21.1
	1,118,845	100.0	1,875	100.0

TABLE I.8: GOVERNMENT OFFICES

	Bella Coola	Hagensborg	Ocean Falls	Bella Bella Shearwater	Waglisla
Regional District		X			
Provincial					
Corrections Branch	X				
Dept. of Highways	X				
Fish & Wildlife	X				
Forest Service	X				
Health Unit	X				
Min. Human Resources	X				
Provincial Agency	X				
Ambulance Services	X				
Federal					
Canada Post	X		X	X	X
Fisheries & Oceans					
Field Service	X		X	X	
Small Craft Harbours	X				
Hatchery (SEP)		X			
Health & Welfare	X				
RCMP	X				X

APPENDIX II

CONTACTS AND REFERENCES

APPENDIX II

CONTACTS AND REFERENCE

List of Personal Contacts

Amos, B., Librarian-Information Officer, Ministry of Forests, Vancouver.

Bergen, W., Regional Planner, Williams Lake.

Boe, E., Industrial Relations Manager, Crown Zellerbach of Canada Ltd., Vancouver.

Boudry, W., Fishermen's Inn, Shearwater.

Carpenter, J., Waglisla Cultural Centre, Waglisla

Cleland, D., Housing Division, Crown Land Inventory Department, Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, Victoria.

Coatta, E., Climate Information, Environment Canada, Vancouver.

Dirk, M., Secretary-Treasurer, Central Coast Regional District, Hagensborg

Fair, P., Ministry of Forests, Victoria.

Hogrefe, G., Chairman of Ocean Falls Resident's Council, Ocean Falls.

Joyce, E., Research, Parks and Recreation Branch, Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, Victoria.

Kendrick, T., Central Coast Regional District Board Member, Ocean Falls.

Main, D., Manager, BC Packers Ltd., Vancouver.

McCloud, D., Manager, Canadian Fishing Company Ltd., Vancouver.

Michalko, M., Assistant Government Agent, Bella Coola.

Parr, W., Chairman of Central Coast Regional District, Bella Coola.

Reid, C., Acting Band Manager, Heiltsuk, Waglisla.

Rhodes, S., Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Vancouver.

Rosen, M., Urban Programme Planners, Vancouver.

Savard, G., Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Bella Coola.

Schmitt, S., BC Forest Services, Bella Coola.

Segwick, Mr., Central Native Fishermen's Cooperative, Vancouver.

Tight, I., Local Historian, Bella Bella.

Thompson, G., Research, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Victoria.

Williamsen, B., Central Coast Regional District Board Member, Shearwater.

Williston, R., Chairman and President, BC Cellulose, Victoria.

White, D., Research, Ministry of Tourism, Victoria.

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REGIONAL DISTRICT
OF THE CENTRAL COAST

COMMUNITY PROFILES

Prepared for:

Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine
Economic Development
Commission

Prepared by:

DPA Consulting Limited
Vancouver, BC

December, 1982

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The responsibility for the content of this report is the consultant's alone, and the conclusions reached herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of those who assisted during the course of this investigation or the federal and provincial governments which funded the study.

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FORWARD

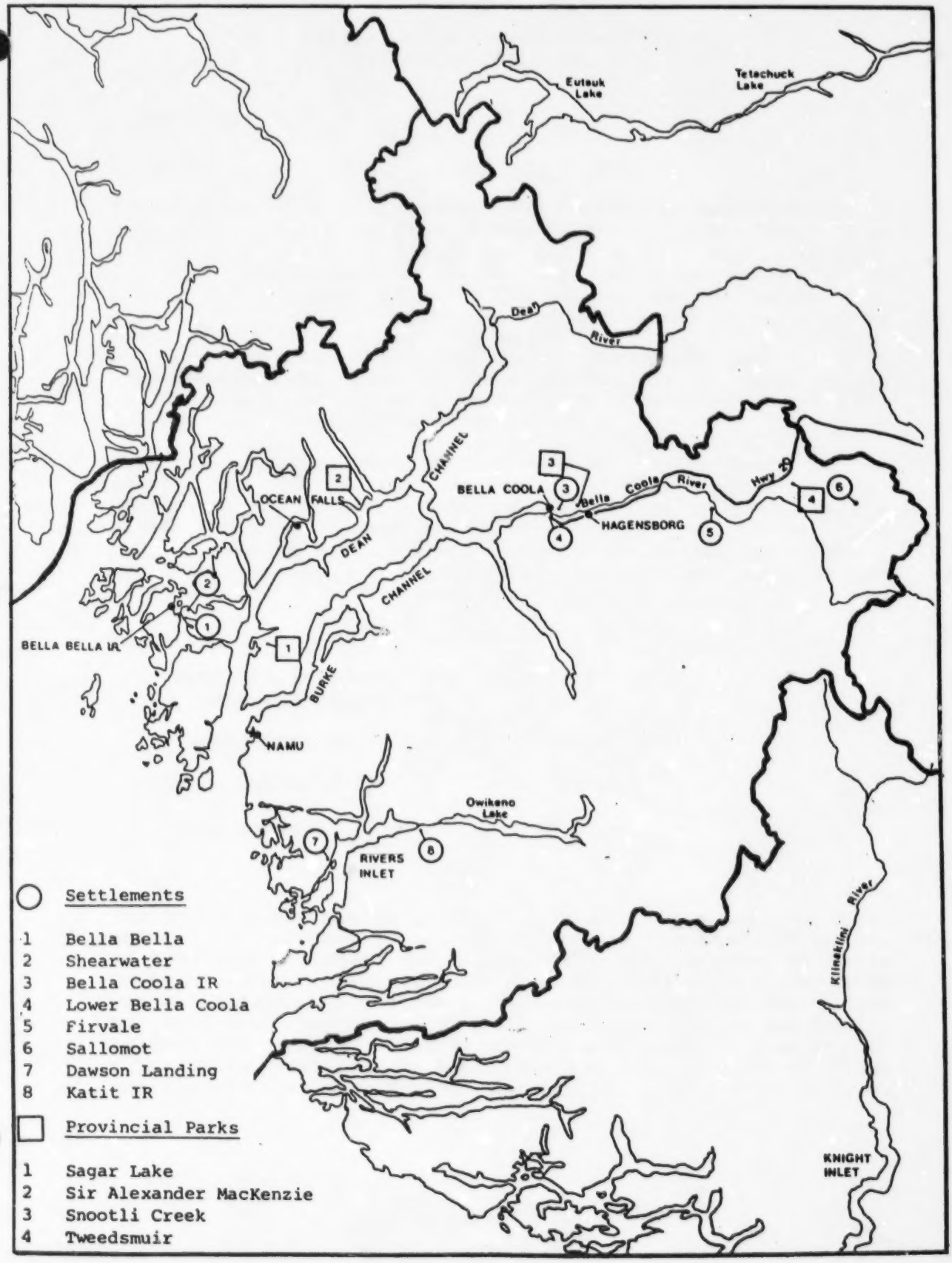
The Community Profiles contained herein were prepared by DPA Consulting Limited at the request of the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine.

The engagement involved the preparation of four reports: an Economic Profile for the Regional District of the Central Coast and Community Profiles for Bella Coola, Bella Bella, and Ocean Falls. The Regional Economic Profile provides a summary of the area's natural resources, demography, history, economy, settlement pattern, infrastructure and development potential. The Community Profiles were designed to be used independently of the Regional Economic Profile. Each Community Profile focuses on community level information regarding history, demography, economy, services and infrastructure.

The intent of these Community Profiles is to provide a catalogue of resources available to those interested in economic development within the community area. They are not intended to be economic opportunity studies.

The data used in these reports were obtained from published and unpublished sources in both government and industry. An extensive interview process with community and business leaders served to update the database. These interviews helped to provide qualitative assessments and interpretations of present and future area conditions.

COMMUNITIES, INDIAN RESERVES, & PARKS



BELLA COOLA (UNINCORPORATED) AND BELLA COOLA VALLEY

A. INTRODUCTION

Location

Bella Coola is situated at the head of North Bentinck Arm, a deep fiord extending from Burke Channel. Bella Coola also lies at the mouth of the Bella Coola River which, together with the Necleetsconnay River and its tributaries, drain nearly 2,000 square miles (5,120 sq km) of the surrounding area. The river valley is long and narrow and is bordered by steep mountains. Hagensborg, which is 10 miles (15 km) east of the townsite along the Bella Coola Valley, is also included in this community description. Bella Coola itself is 70 miles (110 km) east of Bella Bella and 265 miles (430 km) north and west of Vancouver.

This community is relatively isolated. Bella Coola is the coastal end of Highway 20, with Williams Lake being the nearest major center; about 300 road miles (480 km) to the east. The road was not completed until 1953 and the builders had to contend with the surrounding mountains. The result was a narrow and steeply graded passage which makes travel difficult for cars with trailers.

Climate

Mean Daily Temperature (Annual Average)	:	7.5° C
Temperature Extremes	:	-28.9/37.8° C
Mean Rainfall	:	142.3 cm
Mean Snowfall	:	190.5 cm

History

The Bella Coola Native population has lived along the river and in the surrounding coastal areas for thousands of years. In 1793 the explorer, Alexander MacKenzie, arrived at Bella Coola via an overland route. Regular trade with non-Natives was established by 1833 when the construction of the Hudson Bay Fort was completed. At this time, the Native population reached its peak size of approximately 2,000. However, an outbreak of smallpox in 1862 resulted in the loss of about one-quarter of the Native population. In 1889, federal

legislation established a 3,363 acre reserve which straddled the mouth of the Bella Coola River. Much of the reserve land, however, lies in the flood plain of the river. As a result of the river changing course during periods of flooding, the townsite was moved on two occasions and is now protected by dykes.

In 1894, 84 Norwegian settlers from the Dakotas and the Minnesota area arrived at Bella Coola. These settlers established some farms and a sawmill. In 1900 a cannery was built at Bella Coola to service the developing commercial salmon fishery. This was later sold to BC Packers Ltd. A second cannery was established in 1917 and was later purchased by the Canadian Fishing Company Ltd.

Around the turn of the century, several logging operations and sawmills were also underway. These were small (mainly 1 or 2 people) businesses designed to service the local valley requirements. Bella Coola was considered too far from the Vancouver mills and markets to make large scale operations commercially viable. In the period from 1950 to 1974, the number of operating sawmills in BC fell from 1,826 to 787. As the industry shifted to large mills offering higher wages, Bella Coola lost most of its local sawmill operations. Today, the major forestry activity in the area is logging.

B. HUMAN RESOURCES

Population Size and Trends

The area of interest encompasses the Bella Coola Indian Reserve, the Bella Coola Townsite, Lower Bella Coola, and Hagensborg. The 1981 Census figures are available only for the Bella Coola Indian Reserve. The population trends in these areas are:

	1966	1971	1976	1981
Bella Coola Indian Reserve	494	482	544	571
Bella Coola Townsite	293	273	260	N/A
Lower Bella Coola	464	426	485	N/A
Hagensborg	292	360	485	N/A

(Bella Coola Valley - Official Settlement Plan - 1979 - Urban and Programme Planners)

While 1981 data are not available, the recent growth in the Valley has occurred in the Hagensborg area.

Ethnic Origin

The majority of the area residents are Native Indians.

Miscellaneous

Employment is tied to the resource based industries of forestry and fishing. While employment levels in both of these industries are susceptible to external market forces, there is also a chronic lack of work during the winter months. For the Bella Coola Indian Reserve, the 1976 Census data showed that the labour force represented only 37% of the population, and that 15% of the labour force was unemployed. The low labour force participation rate is due in part to the high percentage (42%) of people under the age of 15 and due to the presence of a discouraged worker attitude. The high level of unemployment also reflects the area's economic difficulties and the less than adequate number of jobs provided by the local industries.

C. ECONOMIC SECTOR

Introduction

The communities in the Central Coast Regional District tend to be single resource based, but the economy of Bella Coola and the Bella Coola Valley, while not strong, is relatively diversified. Forestry and fishing, as well as agriculture and tourism to a lesser extent, provide the economic base. There is little export oriented manufacturing in the Bella Coola Valley. Entrepreneurs face high freight costs, poor communications, small local markets, poor access to outside markets, and the lack of a cheap power source. There is, however, a tradition of cottage industries (particularly on the Bella Coola townsite) which includes manufacture and repair of equipment needed for logging, fishing, farming, and household use. As outlined in the Official Settlement Plan for the Valley, the Bella Coola townsite is intended to remain the commercial and service centre for the valley.

Forestry

Bella Coola is centrally located to the former Dean, Rivers Inlet, and Chilko Public Sustained Yield Units (PSYU). The Dean PSYU has generally lower quality wood and involves a high removal cost. The Rivers Inlet PSYU has a more favourable balance of quality and extraction costs. The Chilko PSYU has a relatively low development priority in comparison to other interior PSYU. While several mill development alternatives have been proposed for the valley in

recent years, it is unlikely that any developmental action will occur in the foreseeable future. Upgrading of existing plants will tend to take priority.

Logging is the major forestry activity in the Valley. However, the topography and climate add to costs of harvesting. Heavy rainfall and snowfall shorten the operating season and result in the need for a greater effort in managing the water run-off and river sedimentation. Crown Zellerbach of Canada Ltd. is the only major logging operation in the Valley. The camp which operates in the Dean channel during the summer and fall and South Bentinck Arm during the winter and spring, normally employs approximately 100 people. The trees are trucked to salt water booming grounds and towed to a sorting area in Jervis Inlet. There is a small sawmill which buys its logs from small logging contractors and cuts for local requirements. The forestry sector also includes a few trucking contractors which service the Crown Zellerbach operations.

Fishing

The second major economic component of the Bella Coola Valley is fishing. At one time, Bella Coola played a significant role in both harvesting and processing activities. The BC Packers Ltd. cannery now serves as a net storage facility and the Canadian Fishing Co. Ltd. is also no longer involved with local processing. In the Spring of 1982, the Bella Coola Fisheries Ltd. cannery burned and there are no current plans to replace it. This leaves the Smoker House which is run by the Native Band as the only local commercial canning facility. The fish purchased by the major fishing companies at the fishing grounds are normally taken to Prince Rupert or Vancouver for processing.

The salmon and herring harvest activity involves up to 100 boats from the Bella Coola area. Subsistence fishing is also a significant Native activity.

Agriculture

The Bella Coola Valley is capable of agricultural production. The major portion of the Valley floor is designated Agricultural Land Reserve. Commercial farming has not been a major economic factor largely because of small local markets and the poor road access to the interior and southern coast markets. (Highway 20 is the only link with the provincial highway syster.) Most of the farms are of the "hobby" size, producing vegetables, dairy products, and beef for personal

and limited local needs. In fact, local stores stock government inspected meat from outside the Valley. Produce and dairy products also tend to be imported for retail sale. While an estimated 5,000 ha of potentially arable land exist, less than 1,000 HA are in agricultural use.

Tourism

The Bella Coola area is well known as a fishing and hunting centre, but its limited accessibility has seriously restricted the development of tourism. Fly-in fish camps and hunting camps have not been particularly successful in the past. The hotels and motels of Bella Coola rely as much on government and business travellers as they do on the tourist trade.

Service Industries

Sector	Type	Description
Financial	Bank	1 Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
	Other	1 Bella Coola Credit Union
Professional	Accountants	1 firm
	Lawyers	none
	Notary Public	1
Industrial	Machine Shop	1 which provides service to Crown Zellerbach logging operation
	Sheet Metal Shop	1
	Welding	2
	Plumbers	1
	Masonry Contractors	1
	Logging Equipment Contractors	1
	Log Scaling	1
	Construction	2
	Sand & Gravel	3
	Janitorial Service	1
Hospitality	Hotel	none
	Motel	4 properties offer a total of 61 units
	Resort/Lodge	2 properties located 40 miles (65 km) east of Bella Coola near Tweedsmuir Provincial Park offer 20 units and 9 campsites

	Trailer Park/ Campground	3 areas offering about 25 spaces
	Restaurant	5
	Pub/Lounge	3
Retail and Other	Food	2
	Liquor	1
	Pharmacy	1
	Gift Shop	1
	Clothing	2
	Mail Order	1
	Personal Care	2
	General Store	1
	Motorcycle Dealer/Service	1
	Car Dealer/ Service	2
	Body Shop	2
	Rent-a-Car	1
	Service Stn.	2
	Building Sup.	1
	Sporting Goods	4
	Bowling Alley	1

D. INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Transportation Facilities and Services

Sector	Facility/Description
Highway	- roads are paved in Bella Coola Valley - Highway 20 is the major road and is paved for 60 miles (95 km) east of the Bella Coola Townsite and is gravel surfaced for 200 miles (320 km) before approaching Williams Lake - the hill into Bella Coola Valley at Tweedsmuir Provincial Park is built at an extremely steep grade but is passable on a year-round basis (although non-four-wheel-drive vehicles would have difficulty in winter)
Rail	- no access
Air	- paved surface 4,200 ft (1,280 m) landing strip - terminal building with waiting lounge - fuel supply facility

	- Air BC Ltd. and Wilderness Airlines Ltd. offer daily service from Vancouver - Charter service - Wilderness Airlines Ltd. - 5 amphib, 3 straight wheel - Transwest Helicopter Ltd. - 1 helicopter - 5 private planes
Bus	- Cariboo West Stage Lines offers twice weekly service to Williams Lake
Public	- no public transportation system
Taxi	- 1 company offers 1 van service
Trucking	- 1 firm offers 2 trucks for service to Vancouver and Edmonton - 1 firm offers 1 truck for service to Vancouver - 1 firm offers 1 truck for service to Williams Lake
Water	- floats for fishing boat moorage (government wharf burned in Jan/82, $2 million replacement facility planned for 1984) - fuel storage tank

Utilities

Type	Description
Power	- BC Hydro via a small hydro electric dam and via a diesel powered generator
Telephone	- BC Tel
Water	- several reservoirs in the Valley
Natural Gas	- none available
Gasoline	- 2 service stations
Propane	- 2 service stations
Fuel Oil	- wharf fuel storage tank
Coal	- none available
Sewage	- septic tank systems

Communications

Type	Description
Telecommunications	- not available
Radio	- no local station; reception of CBC
Newspaper	- no local paper - Vancouver papers available daily - Williams Lake paper available weekly
Television	- CBC, plus local receiver providing 4 additional channels.

Social Services

Type	Description
Law Enforcement	- 4 RCMP representatives - a travelling court provides judicial services
Fire Protection	- volunteer unit (20 members) - well placed hydrants - trucks - Bella Coola - 2 Hagensborg - 1
Medical	- Bella Coola General Hospital (15 beds) - 5 doctors - 10 nurses - 1 ambulance - medical clinic - dental clinic - homemaker service - 1 public health nurse
Education	- 1 private school (grades 1-10) - 2 elementary schools (grades 1-7) - 1 high school (grades 8-12) (150 capacity) - North Island College outlet offers courses by correspondence

Land Use and Housing

Type	Description
Zoning	- specific zoning considerations are outlined in the "Official Settlement

Plan" for Bella Coola Valley.

Restrictions	- the mountainous terrain and the concern over flooding, erosion, and land slippage represent physical considerations. Development has been restricted to areas above the 200 year flood plain - development in the valley floor is also restricted by the large tracts of land held within the Agricultural Land Reserve
Availability	- there are no vacant buildings for commercial occupation and the land available for commercial or industrial development is somewhat limited. (The government wharf area has been allocated for industrial development purposes)
Residential	- there is a shortage of temporary housing or rental units. While there are few vacant lots for sale, there are currently several houses on the market, particularly in Hagensborg - there is one mobile home park which has some vacancies

E. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Federal/Provincial Government Services

Type	Description
Agents	(in addition to RCMP representatives) - Government agent - Forest Service (50 people) - Post Office - Human Resources - Fish and Wildlife - Outreach

Municipal Government

Type	Description
Representatives	- not incorporated and local government is provided by the Regional District - the Regional District Office is located at Hagensborg and includes 5 representatives.

BELLA BELLA (UNINCORPORATED)

A GENERAL

Location

The area commonly referred to as Bella Bella consists of two competing communities. The Heiltsuk native settlement of Waglisla is located on Campbell Island and faces east across Llama Channel. The non-native community consists of two settlements (Bella Bella and Shearwater) located approximately 3 km (2 miles) to the east on Denny Island. Bella Bella faces west across Llama Channel and is sheltered by Campbell Island from storms that move through Milbanke Sound. Shearwater is situated on the Northwest corner of Denny Island and is connected to Bella Bella by road. This group of settlements is 110 km (70 mi) west of Bella Coola, 280 km (175 mi) south of Prince Rupert, and 480 km (300 mi) north of Vancouver.

Climate

Mean Daily Temperature	:	Not Available
Temperature Extremes	:	Not Available
Mean Rainfall	:	259.2 cm
Mean Snowfall	:	86.2 cm

History

The Heiltsuk Tribe has occupied the coastal region for thousands of years. They used 21 meter (70 ft) ocean going canoes to ply the coastal waters. In the early 1800's, the Bella Bella Band was actively trading with the Quaguilph Band (near Fort Rupert), the Bella Coola Band, the Katit Band, and native settlements at the mouth of the Nass River. (The Bella Bella Band frequently traded seaweed and herring roe in exchange for oolichan.)

In 1833 the Hudson's Bay Company built a fort at McLoughlin Bay on Campbell Island to intercept coastal competition and to establish a local presence in the fur trade. Fort McLoughlin became a fur trade activity centre which caused a gradual shift in local Native settlements to McLoughlin Bay. The establishment of a school in 1881 spurred the inflow of Natives and by 1887 one large village was established. Problems of over-crowding precipitated a move at the turn of the century to the present location of Waglisla.

In 1914 the Bella Bella Canning Company (later Goss Millard) built a cannery across from Waglisla on Denny Island with the Native village providing the majority of the labour. The

facility was purchased by BC Packers and operated until 1923 when it was destroyed by fire. A rebuilt plant operated on the site as a cannery until 1931, and as a fish camp, general store, and fuel station until 1981.

Shearwater was cut out of forest on the north end of Denny Island in 1939 by the Canadian Air Force. Built as a base for coastal patrols, it housed up to 2,000 people and provided a marine landing strip. Following World War II, part of the military property was purchased by Milbanke Industries and a cannery was built. In 1975 the facility was purchased, renovated, and is now operated by the Central Native Fishermens Cooperative. The rest of the military property was purchased by the Widsten family and by the Millard Fish Co. The Widsten family built a small sawmill and a shipyard. The Millard Fish Co. did not develop their portion.

B. HUMAN RESOURCES

Population Size and Trends

Based on the 1981 Federal Census, the population of the Bella Bella Indian Reserve (Waglisla) was 659. This is a 20% decrease since 1976. However, local estimates indicate that the current population is almost 50% higher than the 1981 census figure. The current estimate of the Denny Island population is 60 in winter and over 100 during the summer months.

Prior to white contact, the population of the Bella Bella Band was estimated to be in excess of 1,600, but less than 20,000. (While this represents a large spread, estimates of size vary substantially and early historical records are not clear.) A smallpox epidemic in 1862, however, reduced the Native population to 250 by 1884. Subsequent outbreaks of whooping cough and tuberculosis reduced the speed of Native population recovery. Despite a high birth rate, emigration of residents in search of job opportunities and higher education has kept the on-reserve population relatively constant since 1960.

Ethnic Origin (1971 Census) -- Waglisla Only*

British	5%
German, Austrian, Hungarian, Dutch	1%
Native (Heiltsuk Band)	94%
	100%

Age Distribution (1976 Census) -- Waglisla Only*

Age Group	Population	Labour Force
0-14	34%	-
15-24	27%	36%
25-44	23%	42%
45-54	8%	14%
55-64	5%	7%
over 64	3%	1%
	100%	100%

Education of Labour Force (1976 Census) Waglisla Only*

Less than Grade 9	22%
Grades 9-13 without high school diploma	38%
High school diploma	12%
Post high school without certification or degree	14%
Post high school with certification or degree	14%
	100%

Miscellaneous -- Waglisla Only*

Size of Labour Force: 280-430 (based on 1976 Census figure of 43% of the population)

Level of Unemployment: 7% of labour force (1976 Census)

*Data for the non-Native settlement is not readily available.

C. ECONOMIC SECTORS

Overview

The Native community looks to the sea for a major source of food and employment. Fish harvesting and canning have become almost the exclusive area activities. The band also provides employment through several self-owned and operated service companies.

The non-Native community is very small which makes economic generalizations somewhat difficult. Activity centres around fish canning, ship repair, and tourism but the latter two provide most of the employment.

Fishing

The Native commercial harvesting activity makes use of:

- 20 resident gillnet-troll ("combination") boats
- 3 resident seine boats
- 6 seine boats which are rented from BC Packers Ltd.
- several seine, gillnet, and troll boats owned by off-reserve band members residing in the Lower Mainland.

The salmon and herring harvesting operation provides in excess of 100 seasonal jobs for on-reserve Waglisla Band members. Some of the fish are sold to BC Packers Ltd. for processing at Prince Rupert or Richmond plants. The off-reserve boats in general fish for the Central Native Fishermens Cooperative (CNFC).

The CNFC operates a cannery and freezer plant at Shearwater which employs 100 to 120 Waglisla band members on a seasonal basis. The CNFC also operates a large freezer plant at Ucluelet on the West Coast of Vancouver Island. In 1981 the combined sales for the two operations approximated $17 million. The CNFC fleet of 30 seiners, 30 trollers and 8 gillnetters draws on the Waglisla band for some of its crews.

In the off season, the Native fishermen continue with subsistence fishing activity. The marine products provide a large portion of the diet with salmon being smoked and canned at the home.

There are also a few Denny Island residents involved at the cannery, and in seasonal herring and prawn harvesting.

Tourism

Tourism is hampered by poor access and is a relatively recent local development. Activity centres around sport fishing packages offered by the Fisherman's Inn in Shearwater. The reasonably priced packages include accommodation, meals, guide and boat. Fish guiding was successful in 1982, attracting in excess of 200 people with an average stay of 3 days. The target market to date has been mainly Alberta and California. This operation employs 20 people during peak season.

There has been little interest in developing tourism at Waglisla. This may reflect a tendency to preserve their isolated life-style.

Forestry

The Bella Bella area lies within the area of the Central Coast which has the lowest economic viability for forest harvesting activities. As with this area in general, the forestry activities have been limited to hand-logging. There are in excess of 20 hand loggers working in the Bella Bella area, and there is one mobile dimension sawmill which produces to meet local requirements. Despite the depressed state of the forest industry in 1982, the local hand-loggers were apparently active. The logs are sold to a log broker who generally ships them to either Ladysmith or to the Lower Mainland.

In the past, a small number of Waglisla Band members participated in hand-logging activities during the non-fishing season but this is no longer the case. However, the Bella Bella Band has voiced a strong desire to become

involved in the management of forest resources within their historical area of influence. It is argued that this would provide improved community stability during the non-fishing season.

Agriculture

Local agricultural activities are almost nonexistent. However, some Denny Island residents have successfully cultivated vegetable gardens as a supplementary subsistence food source.

Other

Waglisla has several community developed and oriented projects which provide regular employment for in excess of 60 people. The major contributors are:

- hotel - 18 jobs (Annual Gross Revenue in excess of $767,000)
- general store - 13 jobs (Annual Gross Revenue in excess of $2 million)
- public works - 15 jobs.

Denny Island has two shipyards which provide an important source of local employment. Caledon Boat Works is a family business which employs 1 to 5 people. The facility can accommmodate boats up to 15 meters (50 ft) in length and tends to service the Waglisla fishing fleet. Shearwater Marine Ltd. has a large shipyard facility which can handle boats up to 30 meters (85 ft) in length. The BC Manufacturers Directory for 1980 lists employment in the 15 to 24 person range.

Service Industries

Sector	Type	Description
Financial	Bank or other	a Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce representative from Port Hardy visits Waglisla 1-1/2 days per week to provide banking services
Professional	Accountant	no public accounting service offered (Band Controller handles accounting needs at Waglisla)
	Lawyer	none
	Notary	1
	Insurance Agent	none

Sector	Type	Description
Industrial	Machine Shop	1
	Welder	2
	Electrician	2
	Carpenter	2
	Diesel Mechanic	1
	Construction Firm	2
	Crane Service	1
	Radio Repair	1
	Fuel Oil Distributor	1
	Other	no business has been established for industrial support at Waglisla (except the fuel oil company)
Hospitality	Hotel	2 properties Waglisla: - 14 units - restaurant - licensed lounge & pub Shearwater - 24 units - licensed restaurant
Retail & Other	General Store	2 (Waglisla & Martin's Island)
	Hardware Store	2 - marine goods (Shearwater) - household goods (Martin's Island)
	Gas Pump	1 (Waglisla); marine fuel facility planned for 1983 in Shearwater.
	Personal Care	1 (Waglisla)
	Pharmacy	1 part of hospital in Waglisla.
	Liquor Store	none. Proposed agency for Waglisla in near future.

D. INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Transportation Facilities and Services

Sector	Description
Highway	- roads are gravel surfaced at Waglisla. There are 7.2 kilometers (4.5 miles) of gravel surfaced roads on Denny Island. - the communities are isolated from BC's highway system
Air	- 457 meters (1500 ft) licensed gravel landing strip on Denny Island; a strip at Waglisla is proposed for the near future. - Gulf Air provides a daily service to Bella Bella, Bella Coola and Port Hardy

Sector	Description
Air	- marine landing strip at Shearwater - Air BC provides 3 flights to Vancouver per week during the winter and up to 2 flights per day during the fishing season - Trans Provincial Airlines provides 3 flights to Prince Rupert per week - Waglisla Airline makes regular flights to Rivers Inlet, Klemtu, Ocean Falls, and Shearwater. They are also available on a charter basis. - Wilderness Airline is available on a charter basis. - no facilities at landing strip - water strip facilities include a ramp, passenger shelter, fuel facility, and Air BC office.
Water	- 2 water taxi companies serve Waglisla, Shearwater, and the surrounding area - Coast Ferries Ltd. provides weekly service from Vancouver to Shearwater - BC Ferries stops for foot-passengers at Waglisla. The summer service operates between Port Hardy and Prince Rupert. The winter service operates between Vancouver and Prince Rupert - dock facilities are available at Waglisla, Bella Bella (BC Packers old site), and Shearwater (CNFC site) - partially developed marina exists at Shearwater (10 boat capacity) - breakwater facility on Campbell Island is used for boat moorage.

Utilities

Type	Description
Power	- BC Hydro diesel generating plant
Telephone	- BC Tel
Water	- several reservoirs provide water to Waglisla - 2 lakes provide the water source for Denny Island
Gasoline	- available at Waglisla
Coal	- none used locally

Type	Description
Fuel Oil	- available to Waglisla residents through a band distribution company - available to Denny Island residents through CNFC or Shearwater Marine. Each brings in fuel oil for industrial use.
Natural Gas	- not available
Propane	- available (on an order basis) from Port Hardy
Sewage	- primary treatment facility involving settling tanks at Waglisla - septic tanks generally used on Denny Island but Shearwater also has a primary treatment facility
Garbage	- a new refuse site has been proposed for Denny Island which will fall under Regional District administration.

Communication

Type	Description
Telecommunication	- telex is available at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans office in Bella Bella
Radio	- no local station - reception of CBC from Vancouver
Newspaper	- Lower Mainland papers available on a daily basis (if Air BC is flying)
TV	- CBC and CFTK from Terrace - Waglisla has access to 8 more channels through local satellite equipment.

Social Services

Type	Description
Law Enforcement	- 3 RCMP representatives (stationed at Waglisla) cover Waglisla, Shearwater, Ocean Falls, Rivers Inlet, and Klemtu - travelling court from Vancouver

Type	Description
Fire Protection	- 1 full-time fire chief (Waglisla) - 10 person volunteer unit (Waglisla) - 1 pumper truck (Waglisla) - a fire alarm system for Waglisla - no formally organized fire unit on Denny Island - fire hydrants and coiled hoses on wheeled carts are available in Shearwater
Medical	- 1 ambulance (Waglisla) - 23 bed hospital (Waglisla) with 2 physicians, 6 nurses, and 1 lab technician - 3 public health nurses work at Waglisla (one of whom resides on Denny Island) - 1 first aid station (Shearwater) - 1 resident dental technician (Waglisla)
Education	- 1 school, grades 1 to 12 (plus kindergarten) at Waglisla. School capacity is 340. The school is operated by the Band. - 1 school, grades 1 to 6 on Denny Island. Its capacity is 30. High school is available through correspondence or at Waglisla.

Land Use and Housing

Waglisla

Type	Description
Zoning	- a settlement plan has been prepared - the village is laid out in an organized manner - zoning exists only at an elementary level
Land Availability	- there is land available for developmental purposes by band members. Non-band members have not been encouraged to initiate commercial developments - no vacancies in existing commercial buildings at Waglisla - the band has purchased the old BC Packers Cannery site on Denny Island. This represents space which is reasonably developable for commercial use. (Store and fuel station on the property are no longer in operation.)

Type	Description
Residential	- there are little or no residential vacancies at Waglisla - rental accommodation includes 44 units with 10 more to be built in 1983 - rent to own accommodation includes 38 units with 24 more to be built in 1983.

Denny Island (Shearwater)

Zoning	- no settlement plan in existence - no formal zoning in use
Land Availability	- a strip of Waterfront property in Shearwater has been tentatively set aside for future commercial development. (The size is 800 meters by 90 meters or 1/2 mile by 300 ft.)
Residential	- no vacancies - there are 25 lots of surveyed Crown Land which are available on a lease development basis. The sizes range from 0.2 HA to 1 HA (1/2 to 2-1/2 acres) and they are serviced by hydro only. Eleven are currently either occupied or in the process of being developed. The lots are intended for residential use but can be used for commercial interests if approval is granted from the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing.

E. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Federal/Provincial Government

Type	Description
Agents	- Post Office at Bella Bella, at Waglisla, and at Martin's Island - Department of Fisheries and Oceans Office (Bella Bella)

Municipal Government

Type	Description
Representatives	- not incorporated (Shearwater - Bella Bella) - Central Coast Chamber of Commerce is located on Denny Island and tends to encourage or promote regional tourism. The area of interest is Denny Island, Namu, Ocean Falls, and Rivers Inlet. - Waglisla is administered by a 12 member elected Band Council.

OCEAN FALLS (UNINCORPORATED)

A. INTRODUCTION

Location

Ocean Falls is located on Fisher Channel at the head of Cousins Inlet. The town is isolated. The area is ringed by mountains and the town lies at the base of 4,000 foot Caro Marian Mountain. There are no roads into Ocean Falls and access is possible only by air or water. The town is 180 mi (290 km) south and east of Prince Rupert and 300 mi (480 km) north and west of Vancouver.

Ocean Falls is physically divided into three distinct areas. The millsite and townsite are divided by the spillway runout from the dam on Link Lake. These two segments are connected by a bridge with the townsite containing the older houses, duplexes, apartments, and hotel. Martin Valley is a residential area lying about 1.5 miles (2.4 km) west of the townsite. It contains both privately owned homes and homes which were purchased by the Ocean Falls Corporation.

Climate

Mean Daily Temperature (Annual Average)	:	8.1oC
Temperature Extremes	:	-18.3/39.4oC
Mean Rainfall	:	423.2 cm
Mean Snowfall	:	154.5 cm

Ocean Falls has a reasonably mild climate, but it is one of the wettest places in BC. It receives 2 to 3 times more rain than Vancouver. In the past, climate in conjunction with the area's relative isolation has adversely affected the town's image and has been cited as a factor contributing to employee turnover. However, a 1980 study prepared by the Socio-Economic Analysis Unit, Economic Analysis & Research Bureau, Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development, indicates that the climate of Ocean Falls was viewed as a negative factor by only a small portion of the residents. The study also suggested that the turnover rate was relatively low when compared to other resource industries in BC. The damp climate, distance from other population centres, and high turnover rates experienced by the mill are well documented. However, their combined effect on the Ocean Falls population is not clear-cut.

History

In 1906 when the Bella Coola Pulp & Paper Co. was looking for a site to build a new pulp mill which would service its 80,000 acres of pulp timber leases, Ocean Falls was the logical choice. It was close to their large supply of quality logs, it offered a deep protected harbour, and it had a large reservoir in Link Lake which would provide the fresh water needed for paper manufacturing. A dam on Link Lake also would provide a cheap source of power. In 1910 the dam, sawmill, and groundwood mill were under construction. The town was well laid out to make the best use of the limited space available. By 1912 the mill was in production and by 1914 it employed approximately 400 people. However, the company was struggling financially and in 1915 the plant and town were purchased by Pacific Mills Ltd.

The operation prospered under the new management. By 1946 the plant had 3 mills and 6 paper machines producing annually:

75,000 tons of newsprint
46,000 tons of miscellaneous papers
14,000 tons of machine dried sulphite pulp.

The mill employed 1,370 people. Ocean Falls was described as a modern company-subsidized town of 2,500 people. The town offered:

- 500 homes (1/2 of which were steam heated)
- apartments (at low rental rates)
- 1 hotel
- 1 bank
- 1 general store (employing 90 people)
- 1 court house
- 1 hospital (2 doctors, 6 nurses, 25 beds)
- 1 full-time fire department
- 1 school (grades 1-12)
- 1 library
- 1 indoor swimming pool
- softball, basketball, bowling, tennis and skiing facilities.

At that time, Ocean Falls was a stop on the weekly steamship trips between Vancouver and Prince Rupert.

During the 1960's, Ocean Falls served as the primary training base for employees required in the expanding pulp and paper industry in BC's interior. Ocean Falls reached a peak population of 3,500 in the early 1960's. In 1966 the plant produced 290 tons of newsprint per day and 165 tons of Kraft specialties and tissue per day. However, rising

transportation costs, rising labour costs, increasing competition, and technological advances were combining to make operation of the plant and its outdated equipment unprofitable for Crown Zellerbach of Canada Ltd. (The Pacific Mills Ltd. name was changed in 1954.) As a result, Crown Zellerbach embarked on a modernization plan which was to address these rising costs and would reduce jobs from 1,000 to 500 by 1972. The cost of high employee turnover (up to 90% in some years) and the cost of town maintenance were other factors affecting the decision.

By 1972, the profitability picture had not improved, and a plan to effect complete closure was announced. This action affected a population of 1,300 people. The BC government considered a plan to buy the plant, the town, and all facilities for approximately $1 million. While it was not viewed as a money generating project because of the plant's size and inefficiencies, the pulp market was buoyant and an operating plant could save 300 jobs. The final agreement was struck in 1973. Crown Zellerbach would supply the logs and the chemical additives for a limited time and they would also market the newsprint produced. The government later placed Ocean Falls Corporation under the administative direction of BC Cellulose Company. By 1980, the plant's poor profitability and poor outlook had forced Ocean Falls Corporation's hand. It announced that the Ocean Falls mill would be closed indefinitely for economic reasons.

B. HUMAN RESOURCES

Based on the 1981 Census, the population had dwindled to 91. In fact, local sources indicate that Ocean Falls' population today is approximately 75. The occupations of those who remain include:

- maintenance and security of the facilities by Ocean Falls Corporation (13) and backed by BC Cellulose
- hand logging (4.5)
- fishing (2.3)
- fisheries research
- shopkeeping

There are some residents who are retired and living on pensions and some who are simply unemployed.

C. ECONOMIC SECTOR

Introduction

Ocean Falls is almost a modern ghost town. With the exception of a few buildings such as the Courthouse, the Provincial Government owns the land, buildings and

facilities. Ocean Falls Corporation is maintaining the mill equipment in good condition. The town was built around the paper mill and, while prospects are not bright, any future development would appear likely to come in the forestry field.

Forestry

In the last month of operation, the Ocean Falls plant was producing a high quality product at a respectable rate. However, the costs of operating the groundwood mill were simply too high. The hydro power source required a costly steam driven supplement. The cost of the needed chemical additives was prohibitive. The groundwood mill required high quality white wood which was no longer available at an acceptable price. While a license could be obtained to cut trees in the area of the mill, the quality of the local timber stands is not suitable for groundwood pulp. Up to 25% of the timber is low grade red and yellow cedar which could be used in a Kraft mill, but not in a groundwood mill.

The economic position of the forest industry at the time this report was prepared is very poor and until a major improvement occurs, the future of Ocean Falls remains cloudy. (Even logging of high grade timber stands is just marginally economic in today's markets.) The present forest activity is limited to a few hand loggers.

Fishing

Commercial fishing is a minor factor in the Ocean Falls economy. There are 2 commercial fishing boats and a private fish farm operating at Ocean Falls. The fish farm is conducting a fisheries research project involving black cod.

Agriculture

While there was a small farm in Martin Valley at one time, there are no commercial farming activities underway at Ocean Falls today. There is not enough quality agricultural land available. Residents do, however, participate in some subsistence farming. (Vegetables are the most common product.)

Tourism

While some tourism existed when Ocean Falls was a regular stop on the weekly steamship trip between Vancouver and Prince Rupert, today it is limited to visits by friends, relatives and tourist boaters. There is also a hunting guide operating out of Ocean Falls who attracts a modest number of visitors.

Future

The key to future development is utilization of the hydro electric power generation capacity at Ocean Falls. While insufficient power was one factor which contributed to the ultimate closure of the groundwood mill, this asset should be attractive to some other industrial operation. The forestry history and the proximity to an existing forest resource have encouraged the consideration of other forestry related projects. A future project might involve harvesting the lower quality wood, sorting it, and producing pulp chips for barge shipment to a Kraft mill. Ocean Falls management had considered building a new Kraft mill on the site but the required capital investment, the necessary volume of wood, and the probable return on investment combined to make the option prohibitive. Any future developments must, however, deal effectively with the high costs associated with limited access and extensive distance from major markets.

Service Industries

Sector	Type	Description
Financial	Bank	none (closed)
Professional	Accountants	none
	Lawyers	none
Industrial	Machine Shop	no private businesses are established to service industrial concerns. Ocean Falls Corporation has a skilled maintenance crew on site.
	Others	
Hospitality	Hotel	1 property is operated on a limited basis (originally had 400 rooms of which 40 were new when the mill shut down)
	Cafe	1
	Pub	1
Retail and Other	Liquor Store	1
	General Store	1 (part of cafe)
	Laundry Service	1 (part of hotel)

D. INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Transportation Facilities and Services

Sector	Facilities/Description
Highway	- despite being on the mainland, Ocean Falls has no road connection to other population areas

Air	- there is a sea plane base (landing area) but it no longer offers aviation fuel - Air BC offers a weekly scheduled flight to Vancouver - Waglisla Airline offers 2 scheduled flights each week to Bella Bella and Bella Coola. It also offers a chartered service out of Bella Bella. - Wilderness Airline is available on a charter basis out of Bella Coola.
Water	- 5 wharves in a harbour suitable for international seaborne shipping. (The largest wharf is 640 ft or 195 m in length.) - BC Ferries stops twice per week on its Prince Rupert to Vancouver (or Port Hardy) route. - good accommodation for small craft is available at floats maintained by the federal government and also at the covered marine ways maintained by the Ocean Falls Yacht Club
Trucking	- a freight company from Vancouver Island provides fresh supplies once each 3 weeks via the BC Ferries route.

Utilities

Sector	Description
Power	- Ocean Falls Corporation operates the hydro power plant for the maintenance of the townsite facilities and for the residents of the district
Telephone	- BC Tel
Water	- Ocean Falls Corporation supplies water from Link Lake to the townsite - Martin Valley draws its water from Martin River
Natural Gas	- not available
Gasoline	- available on an order basis
Propane	- available on an order basis
Fuel Oil	- oil is brought in on an order basis by the barrel (from Standard Oil). However, the fuel handling facilities at Martin Valley are no longer in operation and concerns regarding their environmental acceptability have been

raised. Wood is becoming the most commonly used fuel for residents.

Sewage	- the townsite uses a sewer system, while Martin Valley uses septic tanks

Communication

Type	Description
Tele-communications	- none
Radio	- no local station - reception of CBC
Newspaper	- no local paper (closed) - Lower Mainland papers are available on a once per week basis
Television	- no local station - reception of CBC - cablevision associated with local satellite equipment provides a further 8 channels

Social Service

Type	Description
Law Enforcement	- RCMP from Waglisla detachment (closed court house facilities)
Fire Protection	- Ocean Falls Corporation has 1 pumper truck and the maintenance crew is appropriately trained. - Martin Valley Fire Protection District has 1 pumper truck and a 12 person volunteer unit.
Medical	- doctor from Bella Coola visits Ocean Falls once per month - several local residents have first-aid training (closed but fully equipped hospital)
Education	- limited (elementary and high school are closed) - North Island College maintains its facilities at the townsite and offers a wide range of courses (by correspondence)
Recreation	- gymnasium (part of the school) - tennis courts - bowling alley - indoor swimming pool (closed)

- prior to mill shutdown in 1980, Ocean Falls offered a large number of clubs and community activities. Today, there is a ceramics club, yacht club, and church group.

Land Use and Housing

Type	Description
Availability	- the entire townsite is administered by the Ocean Falls Corporation. The restrictive topography limits both residential and commercial expansion areas. The current townsite provides plenty of room for redevelopment, if a viable industry were found to replace the mill and if the Ocean Falls Corporation chose to sell the property.
Residential	- with a past population of 3,000 and a current one of less than 100, there is no shortage of housing facilities. Most of the single family dwellings in the townsite area were constructed early in the century. These are largely unoccupied and would require renovation prior to re-occupation. The sale or rental of company owned housing units has been restricted to company employees and there are few unoccupied privately owned homes available.
	- remaining residents have expressed concern that housing facilities at the townsite and in Martin Valley have deteriorated through lack of occupation and the associated maintenance problems.
	- in 1978 a new townsite was considered for Roscoe Bay, 11 miles east of Ocean Falls. This was intended to allow people to buy lots through the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, and allow the Ocean Falls Corporation to get out of the housing business. However, the Roscoe Bay development did not proceed.

E. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Federal/Provincial Government Services

Type	Description
Agents	- Post Office - Department of Fisheries and Oceans officer

Municipal Government

Type	Description
Representatives	- not incorporated
	- Martin Valley Fire Protection District (MVFPD) has authority under the Municipal Act for fire protection, parks upkeep, and other improvement services covered by taxes from the private property owners in Martin Valley. MVFPD is compoased of 5 elected trustees.
	- Ocean Falls Residents' Council has 6 elected members who represent the community residents as a whole. While this council holds no governmental powers, it provides a vehicle for residents to express their opinions to the Ocean Falls Corporation regarding vital community matters.
	- it was not clear, at the time of this report, that the community representatives and the Ocean Falls Corporation had reached a consensus with respect to the future development direction, potential, and policies.

POOR

QUALITY

ORIGINAL